

## Baker to announce peace talks

WASHINGTON (AP) — With Israel and the Arabs unable to agree, Secretary of State James Baker is about to intervene and decide a site for the next round of Middle East peace talks. U.S. officials said Wednesday, while Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is in Washington to meet with Mr. Baker Thursday and President George Bush on Friday. Mr. Shamir also will make a luncheon speech Thursday to a Jewish group in Baltimore. The peace talks opened Oct. 30 in Madrid with a ceremonial phase that let Nov. 2 to preliminary face-to-face bargaining. While the opening sessions went smoothly, Israel and the Arabs disagreed on where to continue the negotiations. Israel preferred shifting to the Middle East, which would require the Arab delegations to hold some of the sessions in Israel, thereby extending some symbolic recognition to the Jewish state. Syria, however, wanted to remain in Madrid, or at least in Europe, giving the peace conference an international flavour with a greater prospect for outside intervention in its talks with Israel. Mr. Baker gave the parties two weeks to resolve the dispute, and now is about to intervene, according to U.S. officials who discussed Mr. Baker's plans on condition of anonymity.

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## Assad accepts new nomination

DAMASCUS (R) — President Hafez Al Assad Wednesday accepted nomination for a fourth term as president starting next March, officials said. The 250-member parliament, which unanimously nominated Mr. Assad, has set Dec. 2 as a date for a referendum in which voters will be asked to say yes or no to the nomination. Mr. Assad, 61, took power in a bloodless coup on Nov. 16, 1970. He became president, an office with a seven-year term, the following year.

## Arafat holds talks with Qaddafi

NICOSIA (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi, who opposes Arab peace talks with Israel, has held talks with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, the Libyan news agency (JANA) said Wednesday. It said Mr. Arafat, who is touring Arab capitals to coordinate a unified stance before the next round of Middle East peace talks, arrived in Tripoli Tuesday. JANA gave no details on what was discussed during the meeting.

## Egypt denies guerrillas crossed into Israel

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Interior Minister Abdul Hafiz Musa has denied that four heavily-armed guerrillas killed by an Israeli patrol on Nov. 11 crossed into Israel from Egypt, a government official said Wednesday. The official confirmed a report in the opposition newspaper Al Wafd quoting Mr. Musa as making the denial to the newspaper's correspondent after attending a police graduation ceremony. It was the first official Egyptian comment of any kind on the incident.

## 'Arens made secret visit to China

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens secretly visited China this month to discuss military and political issues, the Washington Post reported Wednesday. Citing unidentified sources, the Post said Mr. Arens and a delegation of aides met with senior Chinese officials to discuss Israel's continuing military cooperation with China and concern about arms sales to the Arab World. The paper said the four-day visit took place just after the Middle East peace conference in Madrid. The Post quoted a senior Israeli official as saying: "There is a very positive trend in the relationship. It wouldn't surprise us if China were to take steps towards at least some kind of diplomatic relations with us sometimes in the not-too-distant future." China and Israel have never had diplomatic relations. The Post said a senior Chinese official visited Israel at the same time Mr. Arens was in Beijing.

## Fundamentalists may try to block Algerian poll

ALGIERS (R) — A Muslim fundamentalist leader said Wednesday his party, whose supporters derailed plans to hold Algeria's first multi-party general election in June, would probably boycott the poll when it is held in December. Abdou Kader Hachani, interim leader of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), added that if the political climate remained unchanged his executive committee would also recommend using all legal means to thwart the election. His comments were the first by a leader of Algeria's biggest opposition party since an Algiers court Tuesday rejected pleas to allow its detained leaders to stand as candidates.

## Former l'Oreal chairman charged in Arab boycott case

PARIS (R) — The former chairman of the French cosmetics giant l'Oreal, Francois Dalle, has been charged with racial discrimination and forging documents to avoid an Arab League boycott of firms trading with Israel. In a statement on Wednesday, Mr. Dalle confirmed a magistrate had agreed to his request to be indicted so his lawyer could have access to the file against him.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

## Egypt asks EC to play key role

STRASBOURG (AP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Wednesday urged the European Community (EC) to take a leading role in efforts to resolve the problems of the Middle East. "We call upon you to remain continuously involved in addressing the problems of our region and helping in their solution," Mr. Mubarak said in a speech to the European parliament, the advisory, 518-member EC assembly. He listed the Middle East peace process, arms control and development aid as areas where Europe could play a major role. Mr. Mubarak also proposed that European and Middle Eastern nations set up a permanent forum for dialogue and interaction between officials and non-officials, professionals and intellectuals between different strata of our societies." Mr. Mubarak said without elaboration. Many European nations back the creation of an institution grouping Mediterranean nations to encourage cooperation and defense crises. Mr. Mubarak ending a three-day trip to Europe, expressed guarded hope for the Middle East peace talks that began last month in Madrid. "We are on the right track," he said. "However, we have a long road to go and must remain mutually engaged."

## Palestinian team to visit Moscow for talks on peace process, Jewish emigration

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A Palestinian delegation will visit Moscow Friday for talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze and other senior Soviet leaders on the Middle East peace process and Soviet Jewish emigration, Palestinian leaders said Wednesday.

Faisal Husseini, overall head of the Palestinian team to the Middle East peace conference which opened in Madrid on Oct. 30, and Hafid Abdul Shafi, who headed the actual delegates, are expected to impress upon the Soviet government of the dangers posed to the Palestinian cause by an Israeli-only condition attached to Soviet Jewish emigration.

"We will raise the principle of the Helsinki agreement and urge the Soviet Union to abide by it," said one Palestinian official noting that Moscow, as one of the signatories to the Helsinki accords on human rights, is obliged to offer emigrants the freedom to choose their destination.

The visit of the Palestinian delegation to Moscow was arranged previously with Boris Pankin, who was replaced as foreign minister by Mr. Shevardnadze on Tuesday. The change prompted a two-day delay in the delegation's visit. Palestinian officials told the Jordan Times.

(Continued on page 5)

## Syria indicates peace talks in peril if U.S. attacks Libya

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria indicated Wednesday that U.S. military action against Libya over its alleged involvement in the bombing of a Pan Am jetliner could undermine Arab-Israeli peace talks.

The official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) said Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa "cautioned Washington over the bombing of a Pan Am jetliner could undermine Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Mr. Sharaa did not directly threaten a Syrian withdrawal from the peace talks, which began in Madrid Oct. 30, if Libya was hit.

But his linkage of a possible U.S. attack on Libya clearly was aimed at cautioning the Americans that military action could affect the peace process at a critical time when Washington is striving to arrange bilateral negotiations between Israel and the Arabs.

Syria is a key player in the peace talks and its pullout from the negotiations would mean the collapse of the most serious effort to end the 43-year-old Arab-Israeli conflict.

SANA said Mr. Sharaa "expressed deep concern over any military action against Libya and expressed opposition to such an action."

Libya has denied complicity in

the bombing of the New York-bound Pan Am Boeing 747 which blew up over Lockerbie, Scotland, Dec. 21, 1988, killing all 239 people aboard and 11 on the ground.

France has issued arrest warrants for four Libyans for the bombing of a UTA airliner in Niger Sept. 19, 1989, in which all 170 people aboard the plane were killed.

Washington has not ruled out military action against Libya.

U.S. warplanes bombed Tripoli and Benghazi, Libya's two main cities, April 15, 1986, in retaliation for alleged Libyan involvement in bombing a Berlin bar.

Mr. Sharaa supported Libya's proposal that the Pan Am bombing case be submitted to international arbitration, such as the World Court in the Hague.

SANA quoted Mr. Sharaa as saying it was essential the case was handled by "legal and judicial arbitration so that justice will be maintained and those proved

(Continued on page 5)

## Political pluralism is strengthening the Palestinian stand, Erekat says

By Mariam M. Shabir  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter



AMMAN — The pre-negotiating position of the Palestinian delegation is being strengthened by moves to forge a united political front based on pluralism in the occupied territories, according to one of the Palestinians negotiators.

The political infrastructure in the West Bank and Gaza is so strong that the people were able to draw a linkage between the negotiators' aim of liberating the occupied territories and working towards an independent state with the intifada's aim at liberation and independence, said political science professor Dr. Saeb Erekat. "They realized that the two go hand in hand," he said.

There are charters of honor being drawn up with opposition parties to give democracy its real essence," Dr. Erekat explained. "We don't want to use democracy whenever it suits our purpose, we are trying to forge a democracy based on freedom and tolerance."

The charters of honor are assurances to the opposition parties but are guarantees that pluralism will be protected by the negotiators and opposition parties alike. "We want to maintain a comprehensive internal front. We want to preserve the no and the yes and find models of expressions. We want to strengthen the institutions that we do

Palestinians outside the territories.

"The Palestinians in Amman, the U.S., Canada, Asia and Europe all are telling us that we are accountable to them. So the issue of us just representing people in the occupied territories is actually not true because all Palestinians everywhere are holding us accountable. We are the Palestinian delegation, not just the West Bank and Gaza delegation," Dr. Erekat said.

The Israeli press has spread rumors that there will be several changes in the Palestinian delegation, but Dr. Erekat said nothing had been decided yet.

"Changes in the Palestinian delegation may occur but that is still open. It may be enlarged. There may be new experts. There may be people who will not want to continue; it's still an open question."

Even if changes occur the delegation political makeup is likely to remain representative of a spectrum of political affiliations, Palestinian delegates here said.

The people in the West Bank and Gaza were briefed extensively by the delegates on their return to the territories, according to Dr. Erekat, they said: "If you stick to our goals, independence, freedom, liberty and national honour, we are with you. If you change we will turn against you."

Opponents of the peace talks such as members of the Popular

(Continued on page 5)

## Masri formally resigns and Sharif Zeid takes over today

AMMAN (J.T) — Prime Minister Taher Masri's government will formally hand in its resignation this morning and a new cabinet headed by Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker will be sworn in in the afternoon, informed sources said.

Mr. Masri was expected to formally resign Wednesday and the sources said the process was delayed until today for technical reasons.

The names of the Sharif Zeid cabinet remained shrouded in secrecy Wednesday. The sources said the incoming prime minister had already finalized over half of his cabinet and was continuing consultations before drawing up a full list of ministers.

Sharif Zeid, a former commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, served as chief of the Royal Court until his appointment as prime minister.

Sharif Zeid served as an interim prime minister for eight months in 1989.



Taher Masri

Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker

## Overwhelming majority of U.S. Jewish leaders endorse territory for peace

WASHINGTON (R) — An overwhelming majority of American Jewish leaders whom Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir will address Thursday favours Israel freezing settlements in occupied territories and trading land for peace, according to a survey released Wednesday.

It found that 88 per cent thought Israel should offer Arabs "territorial compromise" in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in return for credible guarantees for peace. Only seven per cent disagreed and five per cent were not sure.

When offered the proposition that Mr. Shamir was right to insist that Israel would never give up an inch of the occupied territories, 12 per cent agreed but 85 per cent disagreed and five per cent were unsure.

Sociologist Seymour Martin Lipset, who designed and con-

ducted the poll, told a Washington news conference the results challenged the stereotype of an American Jewish leadership that always supported Israel.

"We think it is important that the government of Israel and the prime minister of Israel know where the American Jewish leadership stands," said David Goridis, head of the Wilstein Institute, a Los Angeles-based think-tank on American Jewish affairs.

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"They overwhelmingly support what the American administration has been doing."

Mr. Shamir heads the most

right-wing government in Israel's history. It had pledged for "nationalistic, religious and security" reasons never to give up an inch of the territories Israel has occupied since the 1967 Middle East war.

All those surveyed were either Council of Jewish Federation (CJF) board members or presidents of local affiliates. Only 18 of those contacted refused to take part in the survey and the remaining 126 CJF board members were unreachable.

Mr. Shamir addresses the CJF assembly in Baltimore on Thursday, a day before he meets President George Bush at the White House for an important discussion of how to resume Middle East negotiations and follow up on the initial Madrid conference.

The CJF is important because it is the umbrella group for U.S. Jewish fund-raising which pro-

vides Israel hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Almost half of those surveyed personally donate \$25,000 or more to Israel per year.

One of the most striking poll findings, Mr. Lipset said, was that 75 per cent agreed with the proposition that the United States should continue to press both Arabs and Israel to adopt more flexible positions in the peace negotiations.

Eighty-three per cent said they were grateful to the Bush administration for its efforts to arrange a Middle East peace conference and 52 per cent said they thought its policies had been helpful to Israel.

The poll comes two months after a major row between American Jewry and Mr. Bush over his decision to delay action on Israel's request for \$10 billion in loan guarantees to build housing

## Israel hopes for 20% population rise by 2000

BOSTON (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has expressed hope that Israel's population could increase by nearly 20 per cent this decade as a means of ensuring the Jewish state's "security."

Mr. Shamir, visiting Boston during an 11-day U.S. trip that will include a meeting with President George Bush Friday, told a group of major local investors in Israel bonds that peace and security went hand in hand with a larger population.

"We are now four million and maybe 100,000 (in population) ... it's not much," Mr. Shamir said. "We need much more and we hope by the end of this century, with God's help, we will reach four million ... and nobody will have dreams about the disappearance of our people in this part of the world and they will accept our existence and our independence."

Mr. Shamir said immigration was vital to achieve the popula-

tion goal. "We know that without such an immigration ... we will not have peace and if we will have peace it will be useless," he said.

The session with Israel bond holders was one of several meetings Mr. Shamir was holding with U.S. Jewish groups and business communities stressing Israel's need for financial support to settle the hundreds of thousands of immigrants it is soliciting from the Soviet Union and other Eastern bloc nations.

In Newton, Massachusetts, Mr. Shamir said later Thursday that all the 400,000 immigrants to Israel in the past two years had been housed but finding them jobs was a major problem.

"Our main problem is how to provide employment for such a large new population which is well educated, trained and skilled," Mr. Shamir said.

"We shall be able to do it only by expanding our whole economy

(Continued on page 5)

## Israelis, allies kill child, wound 5 in S. Lebanon

TYRE, Lebanon (AP) — A girl was killed and five other people were wounded Wednesday when a patrol blew up their houses, U.N. officials said.

The radio station of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) said SLA militiamen carried out the attack and claimed the houses belonged to Hezbollah guerrillas.

U.N. officials said they could not determine whether the patrol was SLA or Israeli.

Timur Goksel, spokesman for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), said the patrol entered the U.N.-policed village of Majdal Selim at 2:30 a.m. (2430 GMT).

It arrested Mahmoud Yasseen, his brother, their wives and their six children, to take them to the Israeli-controlled "security zone" farther south, Mr. Goksel said.

But the women and children were later released and allowed to return to their homes.

"As they approached their houses, which are next to each other, they blew up, killing a 10-year-old girl and wounding the

other five," Mr. Goksel said.

U.N. sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, clarified that the five wounded were the two wives and three of the younger children.

Two older boys were taken into the "security zone" together with their fathers, the sources added.

They also quoted a U.N. doctor who examined the girl's body as saying that he counted "30 rifle bullet holes" on the body, an indication the girl had been shot.

The U.N. sources and Mr. Goksel could not be contacted subsequently to clarify the discrepancy as to the girl's cause of death.

State Minister without Portfolio Nabil Berri, who heads the Shite Amal militia, called for a general strike in South Lebanon Thursday to protest what he called "the massacre."

Voice of the South said the blown-up houses belonged to guerrillas of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah.

It said the two houses in Majdal Selim were blown up by SLA milit

# Middle East News

## Report: Israeli network behind AUB bombing; member arrested

BEIRUT (AP) — Authorities have traced the bombing of the American University of Beirut to an Israeli-sponsored underground network after interrogating a suspect who turned himself in, the newspaper Al Safir reported Wednesday.

The unattributed report did not identify the man by name, but said his sister, a former AUB student, had driven the bomb-laden car to the university campus on Nov. 7 and that he and an accomplice detonated the explosives.

A man was killed and eight were wounded in the pre-dawn explosion which demolished the administration building and the library and toppled the clock tower.

The suspect turned himself in after his sister was killed by his alleged accomplice in a feud over money a few days after the explosion, Al Safir said. A police human is under way for the accomplice, identified only as Pierre, a Christian.

According to the newspaper, Pierre worked for Hussein Abdul Nabi, an official of the South Lebanon Army (SLA), a militia group that is financed, trained and armed by Israel.

Abdul Nabi lives in Israel's self-designed "security zone" in South Lebanon and has for years topped the government's wanted list in connection with various offences, including sabotage, assassinations and robberies.

Al Safir said police interrogators have established that Abdul Nabi, who heads "the Israeli-sponsored spy and terrorism network," was the mastermind of the AUB bombing.

Police officials refused to comment on the report in the newspaper which has good ties to the security apparatus.

Pierre bought the car used in

the AUB bombing in September, the report said. He rigged it at his home in Jounieh, 20 kilometres north of Beirut.

The paper said that Pierre had been told by Abdul Nabi that Israel would finance the operation and passed on the information to the woman driver and her brother.

It said after parking the car in front of college hall, AUB's administration building, the woman ran away on foot. A few minutes later Pierre and her brother each pressed a detonator that set the explosives off.

Pierre had promised the woman and her brother \$500,000 for the job. A few days after the blast, Al Safir said, Pierre met the woman and her brother as well as other members of the network at an unnamed Beirut hotel.

When pressed for a first payment, Pierre drew a pistol equipped with a silencer and killed the woman.

Al Safir said the woman's body was smuggled out of the hotel and dumped into the sea.

After the murder, Pierre asked the woman's brother to turn himself in to the police and to tell them that he had shot her over a moral issue to defend the family honour. Pierre promised he would get the brother released on bail.

But under interrogation, the brother broke down and made the confessions.

Police on Tuesday reported that a man identified as Jihad Khalil, 28, Shi'ite, had turned himself in claiming he had killed his sister Hayat, 24, "to avenge family honour." The police report did not say when exactly Khalil surrendered and it could not be determined if Khalil was the man Al Safir was referring to.

## Millions of dollars in Afghan donations missing — audit

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Millions of dollars in donations

are unaccounted for due to gross mismanagement of the United Nations' Afghan relief operation, according to a confidential U.N. audit.

The audit — a copy of which was obtained Tuesday by the Associated Press — said that "there was no U.N. staff in the field who was well versed in the U.N. financial and administrative policies."

U.N. spokeswoman Nadia Younes refused comment on the report, which she said was part of an audit process that would not be completed for about two weeks.

The audit was prepared at U.N. headquarters by the office of Under-Secretary-General Richard Foran, who is responsible for administration and management.

Operation Salama, the U.N.'s Afghan relief effort, failed to reconcile its records with the U.N. office in Geneva in charge of overall relief operations, the report said.

This led to a French donation of almost \$2.5 million being listed as not received by the field offices, even though records in Geneva showed that it had been paid to Operation Salama.

Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, now the top U.N. official in charge of Gulf relief efforts, was in charge of Operation Salama at the time of the reported mismanagement from 1988-90. He holds Iranian, Swiss and French passports.

He is one of the candidates for U.N. secretary-general, but attracted little support in the most recent non-binding straw ballot held by the Security Council a week ago.

Four countries voted for him, eight against, and three abstained. However, none of the five permanent council members with veto power cast a "no" vote.

Diplomats have spoken privately of having reservations about his management ability.

The report does not name any individuals as being culpable for the mismanagement of Operation Salama.

In the confidential report on Operation Salama, the auditors noted that some projects were artificially created to absorb personnel expenditures and that procurement contracts were signed without competitive bidding.

It also found that questionable expenditures went undetected due to a lack of control over the operations of field offices in Islamabad, Pakistan, and Kabul, Afghanistan.

The report said there was also a lack of control over funds derived from cash sales of food and domestic items from in-kind contributions. It said \$2.1 million in proceeds from such sales were unaccounted for.

In 1990, the report said that the Development Programme's Kabul office converted U.S. dollars paid by Operation Salama through black market sources at rates ranging from 500 to 750 Afghans to one U.S. dollar.

However, it said payments made by the office locally were charged back to Operation Salama at the U.N.'s official exchange rate of 55 Afghans to one U.S. dollar.

The audit is to be evaluated in a final report by the U.N. Department of Administration and Management.

## Book includes unpublished Dead Sea scroll material

NEW YORK (AP) — Three American experts announced publication of previously unpublished portions of the Dead Sea scrolls, further breaking a small group of researchers' 40-year stranglehold on the documents.

Access to the scrolls, believed to have been written by a Jewish sect around the time of Christ, has been guarded jealously by an eight-member committee of Israel-based researchers dubbed "the cartel" by critics.

Mr. Eisenman said the 1,787 photographs of scrolls in the new books were delivered to him over a two-year period by an anonymous source.

He said he did not know who the source was, but believed it was no one connected with the Israeli committee or with either of the institutions that recently released material, the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, and Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati.

Professor Eugene Ulrich of Notre Dame University, a committee editor who denies that the group has withheld data unfairly, called the Eisenman-Robinson book "grandstanding" and "ethically questionable."

He added, however: "I would hope this will bring some peace and rest to the troubled waters of the Dead Sea scrolls project. I would like to see (Mr. Shanks) and his colleagues decide they've gotten enough kudos that they can get out of the warfare mental."

Mr. Eisenman and his co-editor, Professor James M. Robinson, chairman of religion at California's Claremont College Graduate School, said they had no doubt that the anonymously donated photographs were authentic.

The experts differed as to what might be learned from the new material.

Mr. Shanks said he did not expect any "bombshells" that would dramatically change Biblical history, but Mr. Eisenman disagreed, saying some bombshells had been found in the Huntington's microfilm, and more were possible. He cited a recently publicised shred containing five lines of text referring to "Isaiah the Prophet" and a Messiah-like "leader of the community" being "put to death."

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## TCC to impose stricter bill collection regulations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) has worked out a new system to be introduced next year allowing telephone subscribers only one month to pay their bills instead of the current four or six months. Arrangements are being made with the various TCC departments in the Kingdom for the application of the new system in 1992.

The announcement was made by TCC Director General Ahmad Nawawi, who said that computers with information about subscribers have been installed at various TCC departments so that officials can discover any defaulting subscribers or issue new bills as requested.

During 1991, the TCC followed a certain system, warning subscribers to settle their bills within a given period of time and then followed that by partly suspending the telephone lines. Later, full disconnection was made in case the subscribers still failed to pay their dues.

According to Mr. Nawawi, the TCC had to resort to such measures to ensure the collection of

millions of dinars in dues to the treasury. He said that the same system will continue, but it will be on a monthly basis next year.

Should subscribers fail to completely pay their dues after suspension of telephone service, their cases will be referred to the general prosecutor for proper legal action. That could mean seizure of transferable and fixed assets or imposing a ban on travel abroad, Mr. Nawawi said.

Asked to comment on the numerous complaints from the public about the extra local phone calls appearing on their bills, Mr. Nawawi said that each subscriber has 1000 free calls a year, each lasting six minutes or so. Beyond that, every call is considered an extra call and will appear on the quarterly bill, Mr. Nawawi said.

Mr. Nawawi denied there were miscalculations in the charges appearing on the bills and said that the telephone exchange is fully automated and computerised, with the calls automatically recorded, giving the date and time.

## New park opened in Ras Al Ein area

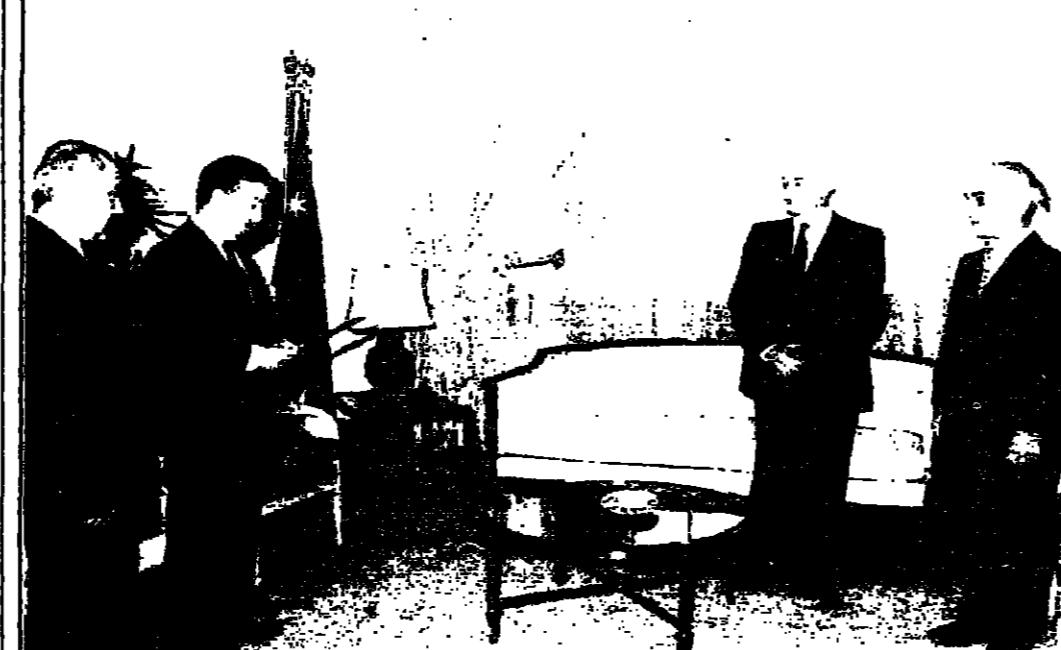
AMMAN (Petra) — As part of the Kingdom's ongoing celebrations of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday, deputy mayor of Amman Ismail Al Armoouti inaugurated Wednesday Al Ouds Park in the Ras Al Ein area.

Mr. Armoouti toured the various parts of the park, which was planted with fruit and forest trees.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by several department directors at Amman municipality.

Mr. Armoouti also opened Al Quweisneh Park in Al Quweisneh area. The park, which is 10 square dunums, includes a volleyball court and a children's playground.

Inhabitants of the Quweisneh area Wednesday organised a



**SWEARING IN CEREMONY** — Jordan's ambassador-designate to Bahrain, Dr. Shaker Arabyat, is due to assume his post in Manama early in December. Dr. Arabyat will be replacing Anajad Al Majali, who has been transferred to the Foreign Ministry in Amman. Dr. Arabyat was sworn in for the post before His Majesty King Hussein at the Royal Court Tuesday. Also sworn in was Kamal Hasa, who was appointed ambassador at the Foreign Ministry in Amman. Attending the swearing in ceremony were Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber and the King's military secretary.

## Technical committee issues recommendations on utilising alternative sources of energy

AMMAN (Petra) — A technical committee concerned with energy matters has just published a working paper featuring proposed policies and strategies on the employment of science and technology for the proper exploitation of energy resources in Jordan.

Dr. Fawaz Al Karmi, Director of the energy sector at the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST), said that it took the committee one year and several months to prepare a working paper of proposals, which was presented to the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources and other concerned departments.

The technical committee groups representatives from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, the Natural Resources Authority, the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEP-CO), the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company, the Royal Scientific Society, the University of Jordan, the Jordan Investment Corporation, the Industrial Development Bank and the Amman Chamber of Industry.

Among the topics given priority on the list was the prospect of

finding alternative sources of power, including the exploitation of oil shale, which is found in abundance in the Kingdom.

The committee suggested ideas by which institutions dealing with science and technology, including the HCST, can conduct serious studies on extracting oil from shale at commercial levels, Dr. Karmi said.

The committee also gave due attention to the exploitation of solar and wind power with proposals for the manufacture of components of machinery and equipment used in this field, Dr. Karmi added.

He said that the committee proposed that a special fund for scientific research be created to draw resources from contributions of the private and public sectors. The contributions will finance studies and research work similar to a system adopted in advanced nations.

Dr. Karmi blamed poor contribution of science and technology to the development of alternative energy resources in Jordan on the lack of coordination among the various scientific institutions in the Kingdom. He said that studies over the past

year showed that most institutions operating in energy fields have been relying totally on imported technology and not giving an opportunity for the development of local technology.

He further said that the committee suggested posting technological attaches at Jordanian embassies abroad, a system adopted by Japan, in order to benefit from the experiments of advanced nations.

According to Dr. Karmi, the committee suggested the creation of a data bank that would feed information about energy-related matters to the concerned departments.

Other proposals, he said, concern the rationalisation of energy consumption, insulation in buildings to save energy and matters related to the protection of the environment.

Dr. Karmi said that the committee has given due concern to the question of oil and natural gas exploration and has suggested the creation of a national company to carry out oil prospecting. He said such a company would be cooperating in this endeavour with the foreign firms.

## 684 teachers graduated

AMMAN (J.T.) — A ceremony was held at the Palace of Culture in Amman Wednesday for the graduation of the first and second batches of students from the Higher Teachers Training College.

A total of 684 teachers graduated following two-year training courses. They received their degrees from Minister of Culture and Higher Education Khaled Karaki.

The college dean, Dr. Ahmad Abu Hilal, delivered an address in which he noted that the Teachers Training College was established in implementation of a resolution passed by the first National Education Conference held in 1987.

The teachers who graduated Wednesday received their first university degrees after successfully completing a two-year training course in addition to their first two years of basic teachers training they had obtained earlier, Dr. Abu Hilal said.

This project, which is expected to be terminated within a year, would certainly enhance and broaden the touristic attraction in Petra, thus contributing a great economic impact to Jordan, the ministry said.

The Ministry of Tourism was able to secure financial support from U.S.A.I.D. in the amount of \$600,000 for the excavation, conservation and restoration of this church.

Expert opinion indicates that the church, with its mosaics, compares to the famous St. Catherine Church in Sinai, Egypt, and may even pre-date it, according to the statement.

The Mosaics uncovered from the preliminary excavations already indicate an extremely refined quality of work and are considered the earliest of their kind not only in Jordan, but possibly in the world according to a statement from the ministry. They constitute a priceless cultural resource in Jordan, the significance of which qualifies them as a world treasure the statement said.

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The Ministry of Tourism's increased attention in the rose-red city was manifested further by its signing of two agreements with Germany and France aimed at preserving the ancient city.

The German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) last Wednesday signed an agreement with the Ministry of Tourism to finance and implement a project designed to help protect the ancient city and carry out restoration work at the site.

Under the agreement, the GTZ will offer 1.6 million deutschemarks to cover the cost of the first two years of the project, which is scheduled to be completed in seven years.

## DFLP condemns Israeli raid on courthouse, calls for return of documents

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) Wednesday condemned an Israeli police raid on an Islamic courthouse in east Jerusalem.

tions and refuse all forms and techniques of deceit through which this government is trying to evade responsibility and to blame the police for what happened," the statement said.

The DFLP official spokesman, Saleh Raafat, said in a statement, a copy of which was obtained by the Jordan Times, that this action affirmed "the Israeli government's aggressive and racial policy and demonstrates its denial of our people's right to practise its religious rituals and to maintain its possessions and religious place."

He said this is a flagrant challenge to the international will, which is seeking a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem in a manner that guarantees the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and establishing their state on its national soil.

"We consider the Israeli government accountable for such ac-

tions and refuse all forms and techniques of deceit through which this government is trying to evade responsibility and to blame the police for what happened," the statement said.

The Israeli police Monday confiscated from the courthouse and adjacent buildings important historic documents on property ownership in the old city.

The statement appealed to the leaders of Arab and Islamic communities and the international community, particularly the United States and the Soviet Union, to intervene and request that all stolen documents be returned.

It called for placing the occupied territories under international protection until the Palestinian people obtain their freedom and independence.

Also Wednesday, Lower House of Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabyat asked the chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU), Abdul Aziz

Bilkhadim, to list the issue of the Israeli police raid on the Islamic courthouse in Jerusalem on the agenda of the APU's next extraordinary meeting.

Mr. Bilkhadim had earlier sent a letter to Dr. Arabyat in which he called for convening an emergency session to discuss important issues of concern to the Arab nation, especially threats against Libya.

The Arab Youth Forum also voiced condemnation of the Israeli action.

In a statement issued Wednesday, it said this action is a desperate attempt by the occupation forces to violate international law.

The statement appealed to the secretary general of the United Nations, Javier Perez de Cuellar, and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and all local, Arab and international organisations to condemn this crime and force Israel to return the stolen document.

## 4th century Byzantine church discovered in Petra

AMMAN (J.T.) — Archaeological excavations carried out at the ancient Nabatean city of Petra in southern Jordan has led to the discovery of a magnificent fourth century Byzantine church in the heart of the ancient site, Tourism Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti announced Wednesday.

The discovery was made thanks to the efforts of American archaeologist Dr. Kenneth Russell, who is employed by the American Centre for Oriental Research (ACOR), which is based in Amman, the minister said in his announcement.

According to Dr. Karmi, the committee suggested the creation of a data bank that would feed information about energy-related matters to the concerned departments.

Other proposals, he said, concern the rationalisation of energy consumption, insulation in buildings to save energy and matters related to the protection of the environment.

Dr. Karmi said that the committee has given due concern to the question of oil and natural gas exploration and has suggested the creation of a national company to carry out oil prospecting. He said such a company would be cooperating in this endeavour with the foreign firms.

## German minister praises, criticises Jordanian church policy on families

By Serene Halasa  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The German Federal Minister for Families and Senior Citizens, Hannelore Roensch, is currently on a visit to the Kingdom to collect data on social and family policies as well as policies regarding the elderly here.

Mr. Roensch, whose visit comes upon an invitation extended by Minister of Social Development Awni Al Bashir,

will visit many social and family centres, to study the social situation in the Kingdom and ways to enhance and exchange views on developmental issues.

Earlier on Wednesday, Mrs. Roensch met with Prime Minister Taher Masri and discussed Jordan's current social situation, especially the impact of the returnees following the Gulf crisis.

"The European world and the entire world has to help this region, especially Jordan," Mrs. Roensch told the Jordan Times. "We have good relations with this country and we are always looking with interest on the situation here."

Mrs. Roensch also met with Dr. Al Bashir, who briefed her on the various developmental projects in the Kingdom, including help extended to the poor and the handicapped through about 600 social welfare societies.

Dr. Al Bashir told the German Minister that the Ministry of Social Development was providing services to 25,000 poor and needy families.

He also said that the ministry was planning to allocate JD 8 million in the 1992 fiscal budget to cater to the needs of those families through the National Aid Fund, which seeks to provide funds for needy families in the Kingdom.

The ministers also discussed family planning and the birth rate, which has risen above 3.8 per cent in the Kingdom.

"In Germany we have the opposite problem, people don't want children unless they are given the right incentives to have one or more," she said.

"In the social aid sector,

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for 4 days

Proceeds of this Exhibition will be donated to  
Al-Hussein Society of Physically Handicapped Children

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition entitled "Graphic Arts of the 60s" (from the Federal Republic of Germany) at the Abdul Hameed Shoushan Foundation gallery (open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
- ★ Exhibition entitled "Goethe Forest" at Yarmouk University.
- ★ Art exhibition by Ibtihal Al Turk and Ahlam Al Turk at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of children's paintings commemorating the 3rd anniversary of the declaration of the state of Palestine at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Farouq Lambaz at Alia Art Gallery (opening ceremony at 5:30 p.m.).

### FILM

- ★ Episode six of a nine-part series entitled "The Civil War" at the American Centre — 7 p.m.

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## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.

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## Labour on the move?

ISRAELI Labour Party's apparent willingness to reconsider the law that bans contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) could be the beginning of the end of this archaic piece of legislation and the dawning of a new era in the Palestinian-Israeli relations. This new stance could emerge from the ongoing Labour Party conference convened to debate and adopt a new political platform on which the Labour Party will run for the upcoming 1992 elections.

There are of course extreme forces within the party which still cling to the 1986 law that forbade any talks with the PLO and continue to uphold the party's own decision to join forces with the Likud bloc in adopting the law outlawing contacts with the Palestinian organisation. If in the final analysis, however, common sense prevails in the Labour Party's congress and the members end up dissociating themselves from the outdated law, then there could be greater opportunities to repeal the legislation in order to set the stage for more honest admission and recognition that the PLO is still the legitimate representative of the Palestinians and it has a crucial role to play in the search for peace.

No doubt the performance of the Palestinian delegation to the Madrid peace conference that concluded the first stage of negotiations between the Arab parties and Israel only a few weeks ago has a great deal to do with the erosion of Israeli support for the Israeli law against the PLO. To begin with, the Palestinian representatives conducted themselves admirably, responsibly and tactfully. This had led many observers, including Israelis, to hail the Palestinians as moderates and rational in their quest for their rights during the three-day Madrid meetings. Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, the spokeswoman of the Palestinian delegation had shown during those eventful days that the Palestinians are not only reasonable but realistic enough to recognise that the name of the game henceforth is "give and take." But that is not all. The Palestinian delegation also reinforced the well-founded presumption that the PLO and the Palestinians are synonymous and inseparable no matter what semantics have been used to drive a wedge between them or distinguish one from the other.

The Madrid conference, therefore, demonstrated more than anything else that the Israeli law prohibiting any meeting or contact with the Palestinian leadership is a sham and devoid of any usefulness. If the Labour Party can succeed in the course of its current three-day congress to bring their country back to its senses over the issue of the PLO, then the euphoria about the prospects of peace in the region would be that much more realistic. Admittedly this is an uphill battle that cannot be expected to attain victory without additional struggles within Israel itself. Nevertheless, the corrective course within the Israeli body politic must begin somewhere and the present deliberations of the Labour Party members is a very good place to launch this new perspective towards common sense, moderation and eventually peace.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AS THE world is busying itself with the release of two Western hostages and talking about terrorists and terrorism, we hope that the Western countries in general and the United States in particular would not ignore the new act of terrorism and atrocity committed by the Israeli authorities which stormed the Sharia courthouse and stole Islamic documents, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Wednesday. It is not enough to hear Washington, for instance, expressing regret over the incident or calling such an action as harmful to the peace process, because Arabs and Muslims detect such reaction which is worth nothing, said the paper. Millions of Arabs consider the Israeli action as a crime condoned by the Americans and backed by Paris and London, stressed the paper. We feel we are the victims of Israel's aggression and we await speedy action on the part of the United Nations to put things right and to end the double-standard dealings with world issues, said the daily. It said that countries which still have courage and are opposed to Israel's inhuman practices should raise their voice high, condemn such acts and demand that justice be done to the Palestinians and the Arabs. The crime committed by Israel, the paper added, should not pass without condemnation and total exposure as a flagrant violation of all international principles and detrimental to the peace process.

A government decision to allocate JD 45 million in the 1992 fiscal budget to give cost of living allowances to the civil servants was discussed by a columnist in Sawt Al Shabab daily. Salehman Barakawi said that the government employees have been waiting anxiously for the allowance in view of the high cost of living and the soaring prices. The employees, according to government sources, are to receive a JD 10 monthly only, but it is feared that this raise would be insignificant in the face of a new wave of soaring prices, bringing disappointment to the employees who are considered as low-paid group, the writer noted. What is needed and required from the new government is to stabilise the prices of basic commodities and maintain control on them so that no manipulation can take place, said the writer. If the government employees are to benefit from the raise, everything possible should be done to enable them to do so and improve their standard of living, said the writer. He said that the low income of the government employees had been reflected in their poor performance and production, and it is hoped that the new government's policies would help end this phenomenon.

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By Ghadeer Taber  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — If the Arabs and Israel can overcome over 40 years of hostility through a comprehensive settlement, the economic advantages of peace, mainly cuts in huge military spending and billions of dollars in long-term investment, will be some of the biggest benefits for the countries in the region.

Peace and political stability are the central objectives of the Middle East peace process but economic advantages in an area rich in resources but poor in management remain dominant in the minds of politicians and leaders increasingly under pressure to improve their people's living conditions as unemployment and poverty rise.

Analysts and economists agree that political stability would result in the diversion of funds from military spending to economic development and bring in long-term foreign investment to replace traditional quick-profit, short-term trading.

"No one is going to invest billions of dollars into this region unless there is stability and assurances that their profits and interests are protected," said Dr. Tayseer Abdal Jaber, under-secretary general of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCPWA). "If there is a just peace in the region, there would also be diversion of funds from armaments and increased cooperation on major regional issues such as the water problem."

Another major peace dividend, economic consultant Sawsan Bataineh argues, would be a change in the attitude of people and officials in the region about long-term planning.

One of "the biggest dividends is that individuals and governments will start behaving in more rational terms," said Mr. Bataineh. "They will invest more, expand existing operations, and reinvest profits into the region. This change in attitude would have a great impact on the economy."

In addition to American political pressure on the parties concerned, many analysts be-

lieve that economic pressures play a role in bringing the participants to the negotiating table in Madrid.

Israel's participation in the U.S.-Soviet-sponsored peace conference was influenced by its need for money to settle nearly 400,000 Soviet Jews who already arrived in Israel and the tens of thousands expected to follow.

Israel has asked the U.S. to guarantee \$10 billion in loans that would be used to absorb the new arrivals. But Washington has held up consideration of the package until after progress is achieved on the peace front.

Progress towards peace is also expected to end the Arab boycott of Israel, open new markets for the Jewish state, and possibly help Jordan, suffering from \$8 billion foreign debt, and other Arab countries in their bid for aid and financial concessions from international lenders.

Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, who have suffered unprecedented economic hardships as Israeli occupation forces further limit job opportunities and restrict freedom and education, also hope to gain a breathing space to rebuild their shattered economy. Palestinians, who have also been affected by the protest strikes of the intifada as well as the cut of nearly \$400 million in foreign aid and remittances from the Gulf states, believe peace could only ease their plight.

Jordan, which was punished by the Gulf states for its stand in the Gulf crisis by a cut in aid, is also grappling with having to absorb nearly 200,000 Palestinians expelled from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait as well as thousands of Iraqis who have flooded the Kingdom. Amman is hoping its cooperation in the peace process will translate into substantial amounts of development aid.

According to the president of the Kuwait-based Fund for Economic and Social Development, Abdul Latif Hamad, the debts of poor Arab countries grew from \$11 billion in 1975 to \$116 billion, representing more than 83 per cent of their

gross national product, in 1989. Over the same period, the debts of wealthy Arab oil producers jumped to \$84 billion from \$16 billion, excluding the military debts of countries like Iraq. Dr. Hamad told a recent financial conference in Bahrain.

But peace in the Middle East is unlikely to bring about multi-billion dollar aid packages similar to the Marshall Plan for Europe or for Egypt and Israel after the 1979 Camp David accord. The biggest benefit may come from a sharp reduction in the military budgets of the countries of the Middle East, the world's principal market for arms and military equipment.

The Middle East's share of the world arms market was 37 per cent in 1978; it rose to a

high of 42 per cent in 1983 and dropped to 31 per cent in 1988, according to a U.S. report, World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers in 1989, released in October 1990.

"We should not expect assistance proportionate or similar to a Marshall Plan for the Middle East because the likely donors are under pressure," said Mr. Bataineh. "The Gulf countries are running out of money, Europe is using almost every penny to help Eastern Europe and the U.S. Congress is unlikely to sanction major increases in foreign aid domestic concerns increase."

Dr. Abdal Jaber predicted that an economic fund would be established for the region to improve cooperation and coor-

dinate regional projects. He said that ESCWA already had detailed and substantive studies providing ideas for economic and social development projects in the region and on how to deal with regional problems such as water.

The U.N. official said countries members of ESCWA are planning a meeting in Cairo next April to discuss the impact of a possible peace settlement on the economies of the region.

He said unemployment, one of the main problems in the region, would require billions in investment to create new job opportunities in the context of a peaceful settlement.

According to a report published recently in a London-based newspaper, Israel has

already suggested several projects that could be jointly undertaken by European states, Israel, and its Arab neighbours.

The report in Al Hayat daily said Israel submitted a 12-page proposal to the European Community, detailing projects that could be shared by countries in the region with European participation. The projects include cooperation on agriculture, water desalination and preservation, energy generation through solar power and cooperation on environmental matters.

The paper quoted European officials as saying that progress on such projects hinged on a political breakthrough without which the Israeli "ideas" remain just that.

## Economic action keeps process alive

By Hobart Rowen

WASHINGTON — Can economic realities accelerate peace in the Middle East?

Although there is no prospect of dramatic change overnight, the history-making conference in Madrid has raised the real possibility that some sort of detente may be achieved between Israel and the Palestinians.

This has been credited, in part, to the arrival of a sophisticated new generation of Palestinian leaders. But their moderation stems largely from a tacit acknowledgement that the Palestinians' desperate economic plight cannot be alleviated until their political relationship with Israel and the Palestinians.

They advocate a regional compact allowing free trade and the free flow of labour and capital among Israel, Jordan and a self-styled Palestinian entity to "maximize incomes throughout the region." Their pattern would be the Benelux system, linking Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

A gloomier perspective comes from a specialist on Arab economies, Yasha Sadowski, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. In an article published by the Overseas Development Council, Mr. Sadowski says that without more financial help from the rich Gulf states or the United States, "economic conditions in most low and medium-income Arab countries seem likely to deteriorate."

How significant might such benefits be? A cautiously optimistic view comes from two economists: Patrick Clawson of the Foreign Policy Research Institute, a former staff member of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund; and Howard Rosen of the Institute for International Economics, formerly with the Bank of Israel.

In a paper published by the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, the two men say that while economics alone will not dictate the outcome of the peace process, action on economic issues "may actually keep the process alive and enable it to succeed."

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The Clawson-Rosen article does not directly counter Mr. Sadowski's argument, but focuses on the fact that the Israelis, Palestinians and Jordanians "are already connected by a web of intricate and overlapping economic relationships" that make it impossible to divorce economics from politics.

The logical step after Madrid is to continue the talks between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

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Mr. Sadowski believes that the Clawson-Rosen proposal for the Israelites and Palestinians is too much of a "leap directly into a European-style union." A higher priority, and one that would offer greater economic benefits, he believes, would be to sharply reduce military budgets in the region.

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Mr. Sadowski's article was completed before the Madrid conference, but he said his conclusion stands: "There will be

economic benefits from peace, but they are being exaggerated."

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## Release of Westerners seen as push to end hostage crisis

By Ed Blanche  
The Associated Press

DAMASCUS — Finally, the end of the Lebanon hostage ordeal may be in sight.

Former British hostage Terry Waite said his Shiite Muslim captors told him the three remaining American hostages could be released by the end of the month.

In New York, U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said the hostage-holders, Iran and Syria have offered the release of all Western captives by

Christmas.

Six Westerners have been freed this year — the most in any year since Shiite extremists began their kidnapping spree in Lebanon in 1984.

But more significantly, Mr. Waite, 52, and Mr. Sutherland, 60, were freed by Islamic Jihad without the Israelis freeing Arab prisoners first.

That raised speculation that U.N. negotiators had stitched together a deal with all involved in the complex affair: Iran, Syria, Israel and the Iranian-backed hostage groups.

Monday's double release appeared to underscore the kidnappers' willingness to end the hostages' long nightmare — a trend that surfaced when they freed Briton John McCarthy in August with a letter to Mr. Perez de Cuellar offering to cut a deal.

Initially, the kidnappers linked to the Hezbollah demanded freedom for about 300 Arabs, mainly Shiites held by Israel's proxy south Lebanon army militia.

Sixty-six have been freed, but the prisoner the Shiites want most, Hezbollah cleric Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, remains in captivity.

Monday's events suggested that the kidnappers may be prepared to settle only for Sheikh Obeid.

A few hours after Mr. Waite and Mr. Sutherland were freed, the Qatar News Agency quoted an Islamic Jihad spokesman as saying that if Sheikh Obeid were released "the case of the Western hostages would be resolved altogether."

Sheikh Obeid has become a rallying symbol among Lebanese Shiites since he was kidnapped by Israeli paratroopers from his south Lebanon home on July 28, 1989.

While welcoming Monday's release, Israel gave no public hint that they plan to free any more Arab prisoners.

But the disclosures by Mr. Waite and Perez de Cuellar pointed to a marked acceleration in the process to end hostage crisis.

The delicate and complex trading in human lives has in the past been derailed by other events in the volatile region.</p

## French institute promotes knowledge of Arabic culture

By Katia Sabet

DAMASCUS — It's a bonding process that started decades ago and continues stronger every year. The actors are intellectuals from the Arab World and Europe who meet at IFEAD (Institut Français d'Etudes Arabes de Damas — French Institute for Arabic Studies in Damascus) to do research and publish books.

The story of IFEAD emphasises the close ties that were established by French scholars captivated by Arabism, ties that have withstood the pressures of political and military upheavals.

Christian Velud, a French researcher and historian at IFEAD who has been in Syria for 11 years, explained that the institute was created when the League of Nations approved the French mandate for Syria in 1922. It was originally called Institut Français d'Archéologie et d'Art Musulman, its founder, General Gouraud, being interested in the study and conservation of the country's heritage of folk art and antiquities. Gen. Gouraud also

provided assistance to the archeologists coming out to excavate in the plains of the Euphrates. At the time the institute occupied the legendary Palace El Azm, a gem of Damascus architecture, where they stayed until 1946.

In 1930, with the arrival of Louis Massignon, an internationally known scholar, the institute changed its focus, and today, under the leadership of Jacques Langlade, it is regarded by Arabists as one of the most prestigious research centres.

Mr. Velud, who is in charge of publications for IFEAD, knows both the people of Syria and the Arabic language. For three and a half years he lived with an Arab family in Deir Al Zor, a bedouin village near the Euphrates in the northeastern part of the country. "A fascinating life, unforgettable people," Mr. Velud says of his experience undertaken while he was working toward a doctoral degree in history.

There is a cultural and historical bond between France and Syria that goes back well beyond the period of the French mandate, Mr. Velud

notes, adding that the French researchers at IFEAD continue a long tradition of love and respect for Arab culture, art and civilisation.

Today IFEAD has greatly expanded: The staff has grown from 20 to 50, the facilities have been enlarged and a modern information service has been completed. Books and periodicals are published in French and Arabic. The number of researchers has increased.

There are two French resident researchers, one Syrian resident researcher and six researchers who are supported by grants.

According to Mr. Velud, during the past 16 years IFEAD has become a magnet for scholars who specialise in the Arab language, and students come from all over Europe.

The IFEAD library contains more than 50,000 volumes stacked on rolling shelves. It is the largest private library in the Middle East, with volumes in Arabic, French and other languages. The lecture hall is open to all and is very popular among Syrian university students.

Noting that publishing is very important in spreading a culture, Mr. Velud says that IFEAD issued its first volume in 1930 and has just published its 14th book. Since 1930 it has also published the Bulletin of Oriental Studies; it has also begun to publish bulletins on specific topics, for example, one on the ancient city of Aleppo, another on Arabic grammar. Bulletins are in the works on Damascus and on Mesopotamia.

Asked whether the French colonial presence in Syria, which lasted 26 years, had left bitter memories, Syrian researcher Scrab Al Atassi explained that the passage of time had erased negative feelings. "I think that people have taken the time that they needed, even those who lived during the mandate. It was understandable that the period would be denied. But now it is accepted for what it was, a historical reality," she added.

"My impression is that the mandate is part of a forgotten past," Mr. Velud commented. "The period has

been ignored, and up to now little research has been done. In France it is only in the past four or five years that some research has been done. This is because France has always covered up its colonial adventures, and the mandate was immediately put in that category. Even in Syria there is no serious research or historical analyses of the period, only 'memoirs' of political figures. There is also, not to put too fine a point on it, the problem of archives."

"French archives from overseas, in this case Beirut, that are kept in the city of Nantes, were opened for study only about two years ago. That explains why all studies that have been done on the French mandate in Syria were until now the work of Anglo-Saxons who had access to the files of the British Foreign Office and the Colonial Office. This gap is in the process of being closed, however, and many French graduate students are beginning to take an interest in the mandate period."

The work of Anne Regourd, a young research fellow at IFEAD, offers another perspective on Arabic studies. Ms Regourd fell in love with the Middle East after hearing a call to prayer one evening in Cairo. In seven years this young woman, who had just begun to study for her master's degree in philosophy and could not speak a word of Arabic, has become a respected scholar, specialising in the astrology of the first centuries of the Hegira, or Hijrah, marked the beginning of the Muslim era in 622 A.D., when the Prophet Muhammad went from Mecca to Medina.

All scholars at IFEAD agree that having chosen Damascus as a location for the institute places them in a privileged area in terms of the richness of the local culture and traditions. Although many avenues are still unexplored, they take pride in the warm relations between scholars of different nationalities who come here to look together at the past and build relations based on a better understanding of the Arabic culture — World News Link.



Christian Velud is in charge of publications at the French Institute for Arabic Studies in Damascus which fosters cultural and historical bonds between Syria and France.

## Smithsonian plays down aviation's role in World War I

WASHINGTON (AP) — Forget what you heard about the Red Baron or watched in movie dogfights pitting Fokkers and Pfalzes against Spads and Sopwith Snipes. The Smithsonian institution does not think aviation contributed much in World War I.

The National Air and Space Museum opened an exhibit on Nov. 13 designed to show that World War I flying wasn't the big deal it has been made out to be. "I think it is safe to say it is the first time the museum is trying to debunk the myth, legend, memory and the great war in the air. The basic idea is to set the record straight what aviation in World War I was all about."

"The basic idea is to set the record straight what aviation in World War I was all about," Mr. Pisano said. The idolising of aces in that war was brought on in part by the news media, movies, magazines and books, he said.

To drive home his point, Mr. Pisano stops a tour of the exhibit at a Pfalz D. XII which, he said, logged more hours flying in Hollywood

aviation films than it did during the war.

It starred in the 1930 version of the dawn patrol, with a fictitious red colour scheme and a skull and crossbones on the fuselage. Then Howard Hughes

writing in his bestseller about Von Richthofen that "he fought fair, hard and to kill, and the better his foeman fought to kill him, the better he liked him for it."

Such idolatry made him a hero to many a youngster in the 1920s and '30s. Reflecting that fact, the Smithsonian included a typical boy's room in the exhibit, complete with a BB gun, socks on the floor and an airplane model hanging from the ceiling.

World War I, which pitted Germany and its allies against France, Britain, Russia, Italy and the United States, cost more than 11 million lives.

The end of that war, Nov. 11, 1918, was called Armistice Day until revisionists, wanting to make it include other wars in which America took part, renamed it Veterans Day.

Because the war was fought chiefly in the trenches, "only flyers seemed capable of moving where they wished — free from the mud, barbed wire and anonymous mass death of the trench war," the ex-

hibit notes.

Hanging from the ceiling of the exhibit is a Spad 13, the dominant airplane flown by French and American pilots, its two .30 caliber Marlin machine guns still looking menacing.

Some famous planes are represented only by scale models, including the Jeannin Stahltaube (Steel Pigeon), a German plane designed for

reconnaissance. But some aviators carried pistols and others dropped aerial darts on the enemy.

Ground troops envied the flyers, but theirs was no easy task. The pilots were into combat with little training, causing Cecil Lewis of the Royal Flying Corps to say in 1916: "Fourteen hours it's absolutely disgraceful to send a pilot overseas with so little flying. ... My God, it's murder."

Some fledgling pilots, the exhibit points out, never even had driven an automobile before they learned to fly. Instructional aids? The Royal Flying Corps used posters to illustrate some of the hazards of flying.

Among those was the Lewis machine gun with a drum of only 47 rounds,

mounted on the pusher-engine F. E. 8 (for British fighter experiment). To change the drum during combat, the pilot had to release the airplane's controls, remove that empty drum and replace it, all the while fighting the blast of the slipstream.

Mr. Pisano said: "We are really trying to make you understand how the airplane was used."

## The unsanitised version

**The Gulf Between Us: The Gulf War And Beyond**

Edited by Victoria Brittain  
Virago Press, London 1991, £5.99 (paperback)

Time alone will tell how long it will take to pick up the pieces in the post-war Middle East. As hundreds of thousands of Yemenis, Jordanians, Palestinians, Egyptians, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis etc. come to terms with their forced return to joblessness, often homelessness and poverty in their home countries, sickening details begin to emerge about the war which displaced them and shattered their lives. Unashamed Pentagon officials admit that the burial alive of 8,000 Iraqi troops in their trenches was a carefully planned exercise. There is no pleasant way to kill people, they tell us. No doubt the parents of the 300,000 children who Oxfam tells us are now facing starvation in Iraq would agree.

How different it all seems from the sanitised version of the war we saw on television, where the bombs were smart, the explosions looked like the fourth of July and not a drop of blood besmirched our screens. Only later did we learn that just seven per cent of the explosives used were actually "smart" bombs, and 70 per cent of the 88,500 tonnes of explosives dropped on Iraq and Kuwait in fact missed their targets. Only later did U.S. officials begin to give their estimates of between 100,000 and 200,000 Iraqi dead in a war which we were encouraged to believe was remarkable for its lack of casualties.

### BOOK REVIEW

*The Gulf Between Us* is a collection of essays which brings together some of the voices who opposed the war to

provide a bitter but thoughtful retrospective. Edited by Victoria Brittain, whose furious but reasoned introductions set the tone for the rest of the book, the collection brings together intellectuals from both the Arab World and the West.

Alexander Cockburn and Andrew Cohen examine the West's business and arms-trading relationship with the Iraqi regime. The Iraqi exile Faith Abd Al-Jabbar traces the roots of the invasion of Kuwait in one of the best accounts of recent Iraqi political history available. Rear Admirals Eugene J. Carroll and Gene R. La Rocque look at the conduct of the war itself, concluding that "the goal of rendering Iraq a political and economic nullity goes far beyond any U.N. resolution." Faith Faqir looks at the war through the eyes of Arab women. And Edward Pearce of The Guardian rails against "the energies of a dozen new paper editors flying in formation" with consummately elegant venom.

The collection is not perfect. It was clearly assembled too early to include an assessment of the treatment of the Palestinians in post-war Kuwait, or to look at the further disasters that befall Iraqi Shiites and Kurds when they took the West's advice and rose up against Saddam. Abbas Shabak's contribution underestimates the sheer desperation of the political plight of the Palestinian movement in the aftermath of the war. Barbara Rogers' piece on the U.N. would benefit from less idealism and more hard-headed analysis of the roots and record of the organisation.

Yet as a record of a piece of history which was so fleeting at the time but which could have such an incalculable effect on the lives of millions for several years to come, the book is invaluable. It is a must for anyone who felt cheated by the version of this horrifying episode which most of the media gave us — Middle East International.

By Simon Edge

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## A sense of smell

By Maha Addasi

They say it is a gift when they refer to the senses. I understand it when they refer to sight, touch, hearing, and taste, but, for the life of me, I cannot figure out why the sense of smell is a gift.

I am sure the perfumers of the world, who have the "golden" noses and who make their fortunes out of mixing and mingling aromas, have already figured out the advantages of this particular sense, but sometimes all it takes is to walk into an elevator, or a crowded room in winter to start cursing your nose.

Why in winter? Because when the heating is on and the windows are closed, there is no longer any ventilation to rid a condensed room of the "silent but deadly" after-effects of bean meals that become very popular in that season.

Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer immediately comes to mind, and new light is shed on the incident with the other reindeer. I think they were jealous of Rudolph's red nose because he probably had a cold and could not smell.

The only way to save people such pain and suffering is to spread the word on hygiene, and explain its advantages and its absolute necessity. The only price is what is spent on water and soap. But how do you spread the word?

You cannot, for example, go up to an "unhygienic" person and say: "Come, come;" as you pat him or her on the shoulder with a ten-foot pole, "let's go to the supermarket and buy you some soap and deodorant."

Nor can you take a "portable" sink and demonstrate on the side of the road how to turn a faucet for water. Although I am very tempted to do just that. I feel that if each of us goes to one such person and reveals to him or her the advantages of cleanliness we could get results of some sort.

But, I fear that people could tip the balance towards the other extreme. You may know the type. I am talking about the ones who seem to have suffered temporary insanity in the presence of a perfume bottle and ended up drenching themselves with a particular perfume. You know, the ones who walk around engulfed in a cloud of perfume. And if they walk fast enough it wills behind them in a trail which might resemble a loyal ghost. We do not want too many of those around either, especially that they saturate your sensory cells in such a way that it seems like you may never ever smell anything other than that perfume for the rest of your life.

I suspect though that smelling was important to detect



danger at one time, especially with fire and smoke. But with everyone burning dried trees in their backyards, smell became a false alarm.

Honestly speaking I cannot be convinced that having an ability to smell has much purpose. But sometimes when I smell a mean lasagna cooking, or a chocolate cake in the making, I have second thoughts.

## JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Nov. 21

8:30 The Simpsons

Bart Simpson fails his courses and has to take them again the next year, which he does and passes successfully.

9:10 NBA basketball playoffs

10:00 News in English

10:20 Movie Of The Week

One-Eyed Jack

Starring: Marlon Brando

A classic cowboy story based on the life of an infamous outlaw.

Friday, Nov. 22

8:30 Coach

The Marion Kind

Coach Haiden tries his best to mend sore relations between his assistant, Luther, and his best friend.

9:10 Shakespeare's Macbeth

10:00 News in English

10:20 W.I.O.U

Laboured Relations

Channel 12's staff go on strike asking for better wages, and the director of the station try to carry on with the news, regardless of the hazards involved.

Saturday, Nov. 23

8:30 Totally Hidden Video

9:00 Encounter

9:30 Life On The Land

10:00 News in English



Angela Lansbury stars in *Murder She Wrote* Sunday at 9:10

10:20 Feature Film

Jaws The Revenge

Sunday, Nov. 24

8:30 The Golden Girls

9:10 Murder She Wrote

Mirror, Mirror On The Wall

Another mystery books writer from New York visits Jessica in Cape Cave. A murder is committed and both ladies, try to help the sheriff.

10:00 News in English

10:20 This Man, This

Woman

Monday, Nov. 25

8:30 Hey Dad

Betty introduced her girl friend to Nudge but Simon invited her first.

9:10 Nippon

Out Of A Firestorm

As the dust of World War II settles and the American occupation of Japan begins, General Douglas MacArthur routes out militarism. Democracy flourishes but so does

Wednesday, Nov. 27

8:30 Kate And Allie

Kate and Allie consult a marriage counsellor to sort out the strained relations between them.

9:10 Cosmos

10:00 News in English

10:20 Equal Justice

False Images

The D.A.'s office prosecutor a murder case, an armed robbery case and helps "Sugar", a witness in a previous case, to get a job.

B.C.



## Clumsy

By E. Yaghi

Lunchtime and Clumsy heard growls rumbling in the stomachs of her family. "OK, I know you're hungry," in answer to their complaints, "dinner's almost ready."

Within a few minutes she triumphantly plopped a steaming platter of fried fish in the middle of the table and proceeded to arrange dishes in their places and prepare ice to serve 7-Up. As she fought with an ice tray, half its contents jumped out at her and hurtled to the floor. She stepped aside looking dismayed simultaneously crunching some ice to splinters beneath her feet. She quickly bent over to pick up her latest disaster and consequently bumped her head on the table, bouncing the fish out of the platter.

Her head throbbing, she threw herself down on a chair and commenced to eat with her husband and children. "Umm, this fish tastes good," her husband said as he bit into tender morsels trying to encourage her.

Her children ate on without comment in dumbfounded silence, apparently engrossed in their food and oblivious to the world. Suddenly Clumsy noted the shocked expressions on her family's faces as she slowly slipped from their view below the horizon of the food. Her husband, by now accustomed to her repeated mishaps jumped up and looked over the corner of the kitchen spread and said, "Whatever happened to you? Are you all right?"

At first Clumsy hadn't realised what happened to her either or how she could sink down into the kitchen floor but as she fumbled over herself to struggle off her upturned chair, she grasped what had befallen her and assured her husband with, "Yes, yes, I'm OK. One leg of the chair came over the drain and fell through."

"One of these days you're going to break that drain! Change places with your son so this won't happen another time!" her husband ordered.

"Oh, so you're just worried about the floor and not about me? What if I get broken, then what will you do?" she retorted. He grumbled on obscure answer.

At first she flushed with embarrassment, then anger, but as she sat down and resumed eating, it was difficult for her not to break down in laughter and join the silent snickers of her children. Evidently Clumsy was born with two left hands and two left feet. Her life has been a series of accidents. Like the time she was walking past the butcher shop with her husband. She eyed the butcher carefully to see if he was observing her in case she slipped and fell. She tried to make herself as inconspicuous as possible but of course she ended in a contemptible splat on her hands and knees right in front of his shop so he couldn't help but notice her.

"Did you have to fall right here?" her husband growled and then, "Get up, get up fast before anyone else sees you!"

But this was only one of many, many falls. There was also the time she was late to her dentist appointment in the city centre.

To make up for lost time, she rushed down the sidewalk dragging one of her unlucky sons behind her when all at once she landed in a bump in the middle of a throng of people. "Are you hurt?" one asked, and "let us help you!" another offered.

In spite of her hasty downfall and probable sprains and scratches, she scrambled to her feet, her face as red as a beet and kept going, muttering to her son in defence of her actions: "Well, one good thing about my fall is I'll probably never see any of those people again or if I do, they won't remember me!"

"Mom, how could they forget you?" her frustrated son wailed.

Clumsy is famous for walking on everyone else's feet too, for bumping into people, doors, chairs, and even moving cars and for saying the wrong words (such as thank you instead of you're welcome) on the telephone or to guests. And when she flops into the back seat of a taxi, the edge of her dress can often be seen dragging outside the taxi door like a flag at half mast.

Many of Clumsy's children have inherited her natural gift of being gauche. Before her youngest daughter married, she went through cups and dishes as though they were tissues, but she was particularly impressive whenever her future mother-in-law came to visit and she just had to break a dish or cup while her groom's mother stared in what appeared to be horrified disbelief. Miraculously the daughter married and her mother has been assured that she is happily carrying on her duties of chipping dishes and cups here and there in her husband's home.

But back to Clumsy. Often she valiantly offers to fix cookies or cake for her beloved children. "How about baking you a cake for your birthday?" or "Would you like me to make a batch of cookies?"

"No thanks, Mom, your cakes look like a street in repair, full of bumps and holes," or "Mom, when you make cookies, all the cookies melt into one and the whole thing looks like one huge cookie. We need a hammer instead of a knife to break them apart and in fact, we can't tell where the cookie ends and the tray begins! We'd rather do without!"

Well, there must be something Clumsy does right, but her family's still searching for her hidden endowment. They can be certain that Clumsy is always the one who goes out the door market, "Entrance" and enters through the "Exit." She also invariably bumps into displays at supermarkets and sends goods crashing to the floor which she swiftly replaces under the cold glaring stares of "better than thou" customers.

Meanwhile, that femme fatale Clumsy carries on with her life which has more downs than ups as she strives to break the record of the "clumsiest person of the year" in Guinness Book of Records where competition happens to be fierce. Good luck Clumsy but beware of that drain in your kitchen floor and don't go slipping through or you might be swept away in a river of waste and turn into a mutant cockroach!

## Charles Tellier and the Frigorifique

**Charles Tellier invented a system of preserving food using the cold. He is responsible for the first long-distance transport of refrigerated food. The story of his ship the "Frigorifique" has become history.**

By Jean Chabrier

PARIS — Charles Tellier was born in Amiens in 1828. He spent his childhood in Normandy where his father ran a cotton mill. From an early age, he was in contact with technology. This lively, imaginative youth was interested in all kinds of scientific subjects and his studies took him in the direction of an engineer of the 19th century, that is towards informed dilettantism.

He invented a time-and-kilometre meter for cabs, a solar-energy motor, instant brakes for trains and many other things.

About the middle of the Second French Empire, he thought up a grandiose scheme for underground pipes in Paris for the purpose of distributing the energy of compressed air everywhere.

He thus met Baron Haussmann and then Emperor Napoleon III who considered the project as being premature and advised him to do research on solving the problem of industrial refrigeration.

Charles Tellier started research on ammonia. He turned it into a liquid, condensed it and evaporated it. His early machines worked perfectly and were a success. But he was not a man of financial means and he ended up in the debtor prison. After that, he returned to his research and set up a "cold-machine" factory.

He delivered chilled drinks in Paris and these were a great success at the Imperial Fête. He also noticed that it was enough to refrigerate meat, and not to freeze it, to be able to keep it for a long time.

After the 1870-71 war, when he had perfectly mastered the technique of refrigeration, he declined the offer to go and set up refrigeration plants in the United States and set upon the big

gest adventure of his life: transporting food preserved by refrigeration over big distances. He set up a company and bought a ship which he called the Frigorifique. He refurbished it, installing refrigeration machines in the hold and cold stores insulated by cork, straw and tanned canvas.

**The revenge of the Frigorifique**

In 1876, the Frigorifique set sail from Rouen, laden with all kinds of meat. A crowd of guests from Paris attended the departure. The ship stopped over in Lisbon and then arrived in Buenos Aires at Christmas. It was greeted with enthusiasm as the cargo had been perfectly preserved and the newspapers considered the fact as a great event. A banquet was organised at which the guests ate fillet of beef or mutton chops 105 days old. They

Naturally, there was no radar, only the sound of foghorns which seemed to be coming from all directions and blasted at regular intervals with each vessel trying to warn the others of its presence. Suddenly, there was a collision. An English coalship hit the Frigorifique right

in the middle. The crew abandoned the sinking ship and managed to climb on board the English vessel.

Witnesses confirm that, during the night, the ghost of the Frigorifique, looming out of the fog, tried to sink them. The third time was a direct hit. Screaming in terror and panic, the two crews saw the Frigorifique taking its revenge. Feeling the deck slipping away from under their feet, they leapt into the lifeboats and, full of fright, headed for the coast where the tale of their shipwreck spread, becoming more and more irrational.

The scientific explanation is that the water-tightness of the chambers and the density of the ice had caused it to float. With the engines working, the rudder blocked and the current carrying it along, it went in big circles.

In his lifetime, Charles Tellier had not managed to make the big fortune such a brilliant inventor deserved, but, in 1912, shortly before his death, he was paid homage by being awarded the Legion d'Honneur, at a huge meal where only products sent in hommage, from all over the world and kept by refrigeration, were served. He was 84.

— L'Actualité en France.

**The Frigorifique, the ship responsible for the first transport of refrigerated food, was invented by Charles Tellier (insert).**



## The Rolling Stones rock on — larger-than-life



Mick Jagger

By Michael Ellis

Reuter

TORONTO — Mick Jagger's famous mouth threatens to swallow whole audiences as he rips into songs like *I Can't Get No Satisfaction* and *Get Off My Cloud*.

Fans of the Rolling Stones long used to seeing their heroes as dots on the stage of vast stadiums can now enjoy the veteran rockers pounding out the hits on movie screens eight stories high.

The Stones have made a film designed for huge Imax screens, up to 10 times the size of conventional screens.

At *The Max*, filmed over the final nights of their steel wheels-urban jungle tour last year, opened last month in Los Angeles, at four locations across Canada and in Holland, Belgium, Austria and France.

Fans are treated to giant images of the Stones grinding out 15 of their hits at stadiums in Turin, East Berlin and London.

The Imax screen produces an "In-Your-Face" effect, extending the image beyond a viewer's peripheral vision so the edges of the screen seem to disappear.

"It's amazing to see your own life boot 30 feet long and stuff like that," Stones guitarist Keith Richards told reporters at a press preview in Toronto.

The Toronto-based Imax Corp., which has cinemas in about 75 cities in 15 countries around the world, departed from the space and nature films usually shown at theme parks and museums to bring the Stones to the screen.

The Stones decided to make the film for the mammoth screen after seeing some of those space and nature movies, executive producer Andre Picard said.

"They were very aware that it was a new kind of film and a new kind of music experience as well, and all the way through ... I was sending them cuts as we did each song," Julien Temple, creative consultant and location director, said in an interview from Los Angeles.

Temple previously directed several videos for the Stones, including the controversial *Undercover*. He was also responsible for the Sex Pistols' *The Great Rock And Roll Swindle*.

The release of *At The Max*, shot at a cost of \$10 million, was delayed by about a month for further work on the sound mix to satisfy Richards' demands, Temple said.

"Keith is very close to that

music and doesn't want anyone to hear it unless it's as good as it can be."

Temple said he edited the film in a manner "that kept the excitement of the music ... as well as allowing the space for the Imax images to satisfy the eye."

The Stones have been in several movies, including the concert film *Gimme Shelter* in California in 1969, when one fan was stabbed and beaten to death by a member of a Hell's Angels motorcycle gang.

"As a musical unit, they're probably better" than they have ever been, Temple said.

"There's also a wonderful kind of psychological drama and musical drama in that band between him (Jagger) and Keith. They're kind of these polar opposites that give a central kind of charge

of energy to the sense of them as a band beyond the music."

Jagger wanted to avoid the "rockumentary" cliché of a rock 'n' roll film, of the roadies tuning guitars behind stage and the band playing pool and video games.

"It's not a documentary about a tour or being on the road or how it works or what happens when you go back to the hotel," Jagger said at the Toronto press preview.

Aside from the opening minutes showing drummer Charlie Watts tap-dancing back stage and guitarist Ron Wood taking a few puffs of a cigarette, viewers are presented with 90 pulsating minutes of rock 'n' roll.

Seven cameras were positioned to show the band from dozens of angles — from a helicopter over London's

Wembley Stadium, on stage as Richards' left hand tears across his guitar strings with silver skull ring flashing, or 20 rows back in the audience as a sea of waving arms fills the bottom third of the screen.

"Music films need an energy in the cutting because you're illustrating an entity of a band playing rhythmically interlocking parts," Temple said. "So you want to cut and see what Keith is doing and then Mick's answering vocal."

Temple said he finds rock films on conventional-sized screens boring, but the Imax screen adds a new dimension he would like to explore further.

"Overall, I think it delivers a punch that no other concert film has managed ... it's almost better than a concert itself."

## China — the last frontier of rock and roll

By Andrew Browne

Reuter

PEKING — Their last show in California was in the lobby of a Hyatt Hotel.

Playing the discotheque at Peking's Great Wall Sheraton gets them no nearer to rock stardom, but the up-and-coming Los Angeles band Pegasus has found unexpected fame in China, rock-'n'-rolle's last great frontier.

The first professional Western rock band resident in China, Pegasus recently became the first Western group to make a recording in the country.

A five-city promotional tour is planned with television appearances. Solo albums will follow, and perhaps a concert at Peking's Capital Sports Stadium.

"It's in an embryonic stage," said keyboard player

Stephen Hanuman of China's rock scene. "It's wide open."

Sex and drugs and rock-'n'-roll — hard rock, at least — are officially off-limits for Chinese youth.

This nation of 1.1 billion people, with an estimated 250 million cassette decks, has only one real rock star, the elf-like rebel Cui Jian. His face adorns countless T-shirts, but his lyrics of veiled dissent rattle the Communist authorities.

Taiwan love songs and the tiny "canto-pop" sounds of Hong Kong sell millions of cassettes in China. Rock is a different matter, and so too are Western bands.

Pegasus found that out the hard way.

In August, Pegasus were all set to leave their hotel for the Capital Stadium, where they were topping the bill in a show being televised live across the nation, when news

came that authorities had banned them.

Their songs had been vetted and approved — every word of every lyric — but politics got in the way.

Among several improbable reasons given: Officials were piqued that the United States had donated so little to a Chinese flood relief appeal, and they were worried that members of the audience might dance in the aisles.

Dancing is taboo at Chinese concerts: It threatens control.

Drummer Eddy Betancourt has shared the limelight with the likes of James Brown and Natalie Cole, and he still looks pained when he relates the story of the cancelled concert.

"We're respectful of the country we're in," he said philosophically, and added — with no pun intended — "We don't want to rock the boat."

Long-time Western residents of Peking who lived through the crackdown on the Democracy Movement in June, 1989, say that if anything the city's rock scene has improved since then.

"Rock-'n'-roll nights" featuring Cui Jian, or the all-girl line-up Cobra, or the hard rockers Tang Dynasty, have become a regular feature of Peking's night life.

One theory goes that Chinese authorities, with blood on their hands after crushing the student-led Democracy Movement, are reluctant to alienate young people further by clamping down on the music scene.

But the concerts in small clubs and bars — sometimes in the swanky restaurant Maxim's — draw mostly foreign students, journalists and diplomats. No more than a handful of Chinese turn up.

Still, these are early days for rock music in China. The Chinese fans with their shoulder-length hair and clad in studded leather jackets are on the far fringes of society.

A disastrous tour by the British rock duo Wham in 1985 gave Peking residents their first, and last glimpse of a major Western band.

Wham and the Chinese government were not ready for each other.

Paul Simon is one of the few Western artists to come to China since then, appearing last month in the relatively liberal southern city of Canton.

For now there is Pegasus. Mellow pop sounds have made Pegasus acceptable to Chinese ears, and may even turn a modest profit for the band if sales of its soon-to-be-released cassette take off.

The four-piece band with

Hanuman and Betancourt, Keith Brock on lead guitar and Cynthia Manly as vocalist, have trebled business at the Sheraton's Cosmos Club where they play six nights a week for a mostly local audience.

They stick to ballads and cover versions of songs by artists such as Phil Collins, Lionel Richie and Sinéad O'Connor — the same sort of material that features on their cassette.

On a recent mid-week evening in the Cosmos Club, Cui Jian was hanging out with his girlfriend and members of his band, and local paparazzi were buzzing round the stage, getting an angle on singer Manly's raunchy strutting.

"I was always saying," said Betancourt dryly, "you've got to get out of L.A. to get noticed."

Paul Simon is one of the few Western artists to come to China.

## The Commitments — from nowhere to something and how to hold it

By Paul Majendie

Reuter

DUBLIN — A dozen unknowns were plucked from the mean streets of Dublin by film director Alan Parker to star in *The Commitments*, a riotous tale about forming a pop group that has become an international hit.

The film won rave reviews in Britain and the United States and the soundtrack album has made it into the top ten on both sides of the Atlantic. But what of the cast a year after they were propelled from obscurity to stardom?

Angeline Ball, one of the raunchy singers in the group that brought soul to working-class Dublin, is the first to admit the truth of the maxim that we can all be famous for 15 minutes, but really need to work at it on a long-time basis.

Before flying off to try to land a film part in Los Angeles, she said it for them all.

"One minute I was in the Braemor Rooms (a Dublin bar), the next I was working in a film with Alan Parker and pigging in the Universal amphitheatre with Bette Midler and meeting all these huge stars. You never know. I always say, tomorrow I could be working in a fish factory."

But the down-to-earth Dubliner could hardly be accused of being starry-eyed at the thought of trans-Atlantic fame.

"The Americans are all into this image thing, they're very health conscious. Here it is more character-based," she told the *Irish Times*.

"There's beautiful women in America but there's hot air between their ears. The Americans are the kind of people you want to stare at all night but the Irish are the kind of people you want to spend your life with."

With unemployment soaring in working-class Dublin and emigration often the only option, young dreamers turn to music as the hoped-for short cut to fame and fortune.

Most, like The Commitments, break up within a year but all dream of following in the footsteps of U2, the Irish rock group who are now international stars.

Robert Arkins, who played the Mr Fixit manager Jimmy Rabbitte in the film and is now working on his own album, put it bluntly.

"It doesn't mean a thing being successful in Ireland but in America, Irish bands have more chance of making it than anyone. Americans claim to be half Irish even if they don't know where Ireland is," he told Britain's Daily Telegraph.

The chances of the band coming together again are virtually nil, admit publicists for the record and film companies.

Reviewing what they have been up to since making the picture a year ago, film publicist Lisette Cohen said in London: "I have never known such interest being shown in a picture so long after it has been finished and released."

"We are at the moment putting together a *Commitments II* album with another dozen tracks from the film. There is a tremendous demand for it."

## Saving the film heritage — a race against time

By Pierre-Albert Lambert

PARIS — Under the auspices of the National Cinematography Centre (CNC), the Film Archives Department, which employs about fifty people, is in charge of preserving the reels of film which it owns or ones which are deposited with it, as well as anything to do with the seventh art: posters, scripts, models, etc. It is one of the most important organisations of its kind in the world.

"The essential of what we have received is there: Everything which has survived excessive use, fires and irresponsible destruction: A priceless treasure," one of those in charge explains. It is kept on two neighbouring sites west of Paris, Saint-Cyr and Bois d'Arcy, in the former pillboxes of a fort which was used as a gunpowder factory last century and in ultra-modern buildings.

They house nearly a million reels of film in a controlled environment with 50 per cent humidity and a temperature of 12 degrees centigrade. Maximum security is ensured with fire-doors, anti-explosion vents, etc.

The Film Archives Department was created in 1969, thanks to Andre Malraux who, at the time, was General Charles de Gaulle's minister of culture. He had made the former gunpowder factory available to Henri Langlois (a fanatic of motion pictures who was to become the founder of the "Cinémathèque" film archives in Paris) to enable him to store the old films which he unearthed by rummaging through attics, cellars and barns. Once, at the back of a stable, he came across a film of "the visit by the president of the French Republic to Algeria", made

in the 20s.

Meanwhile, a real race against time is on, at the laboratories in Saint-Cyr and Bois d'Arcy, to save 247,000 reels of nitrate films, representing 20 million metres of film, by copying them onto stable film using highly developed equipment.

Over the last fifteen years, three million metres of film have been saved from the injuries of time. From now, a million metres of nitrate films will have to be saved a year, by 2005, the fatal date from which countless reels will be damaged beyond recall. But it is out of the question to save everything, as Henri Langlois ardently wished.

Millions of metres of nitrate films, mainly off-cuts or duplicates, will irretrievably return to dust.

Because this has to be done quickly and because the operations of restoration and preservation are complex and delicate, the technicians at the Film Archives Department have to be selective. They take various factors into account: The physical and chemical state of the film, the absence of an already restored copy in other archives in France or abroad, the interest of the film for the cinema heritage, etc.

It is a never-ending task. In order to help carry out this work successfully, the Ministry of culture has launched an "Emergency Plan for Saving the Film Heritage". Staffing levels at the Film Archives Department have been increased as well as its budget. In 1990, it amounted to 17 million francs. In 1991, it has risen to 26 million francs. This increase is to be continued for, as the minister decreed: "We must absolutely save everything that deserves to be saved" — L'Actualité en France.

**Emergency plan**

In the near future, acetate films are going to be replaced by polyester films (an American patent) whose stability is estimated at 500 years. They are already used for medical and industrial X-rays but the extension of their use will require the installation of new projectors, which will take time.

How to save 20 million metres of perishable film?

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## Drug treatment stops development of heart failure — study

Daniel Q. Haney  
Associated Press

HEIM, California — For the first time, a medical treatment has been shown to stop the development of congestive heart failure, a disease that could benefit 1 million Americans, according to a major study released Monday.

Researchers found that a variety of drugs called ace inhibitors can prevent — at least temporarily — the start of heart failure symptoms in people with damaged hearts. Last August, the same team disclosed that the treat-

ment can significantly improve the survival of people who already suffer from heart failure, a major killer that afflicts about 2 million Americans.

Now, the latest results show that the same medicine can forestall the development of heart failure in the estimated 1 million people who are at high risk of the disease because of injury to their left ventricles, the heart's main pumping chamber. Such damage commonly results from heart attacks, chronic high blood pressure and heart inflammation, among other causes.

"The key issue is: Can we prevent people from getting heart failure? We found an approximately 37 per cent reduction in the development of heart failure" among those who took ace inhibitors, said Dr. Salim Yusuf of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

The five-year study was conducted on 4,228 people at 83 hospitals in the United States, Canada and Belgium. Dr. Yusuf presented the results at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association.

Half of the people in the study took Enalapril, one

form of ace inhibitor, while the rest got placebos. The study's findings included:

— Among those getting the ace inhibitors, 436 developed heart failure, compared with 638 in the comparison group.

— Taking ace inhibitors reduced the heart attack rate by 23 per cent.

— There were 247 deaths from heart disease in those taking the drug, and 282 deaths in the comparison group.

This difference, though encouraging, was considered not quite large enough to be statistically meaningful.

The risk of being hospitalised was 36 per cent lower in those taking the drug.

"This is good news," commented Dr. Eugene Braunwald of Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

"When doctors have patients with heart disease who have a high chance of going into heart failure, they should give high consideration to using ace inhibitors before overt failure occurs."

The latest study is the first large-scale research to show that any treatment can prevent the development of heart failure.

Dr. Braunwald is conducting a similar study that is limited to people whose heart damage results solely from heart attacks.

The latest study was restricted to people who had significant damage to their heart muscle. As a result, no more than 35 per cent of the blood was pumped out of their hearts with each beat.

Each year, heart failure is the primary cause of 40,000 deaths, and it contributes to 230,000 others. It is the leading reason why people over age 65 are hospitalised.

In the study, the death rate

quadrupled after people went on to develop heart failure.

Just how long the treatment will ward off heart failure in people with damaged hearts is still unclear. However, Dr. Yusuf said he suspects it will typically be nine months to a year.

"It is not a panacea," said Dr. Yusuf. "For the first time, we have a drug that does something, but people should not go away with the idea that this is some kind of magic and we don't need anything else."

ACE inhibitors relax the blood vessels. They work by

interfering with Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme. This protein causes blood vessels to tighten and narrow, forcing the heart to work harder as it pushes blood throughout the body.

During heart failure, the heart is not strong enough to pump blood adequately. As a result, fluid builds up in the lungs and limbs. Symptoms include shortness of breath, pain and fatigue.

ACE inhibitors are a relatively new class of medicines that are already widely used to treat high blood pressure.

## Australian scientists develop new genetic test for diseases

SYDNEY (R) — Australian scientists have developed a new genetic test that enables prospective parents to find out in less than a day the chances of passing on genetic diseases such as cystic fibrosis to their children.

The process known as "geneco technology" has been developed by the Queensland University of Technology for Molecular Biotechnology.

"Current tests are expensive and time consuming, as they need one technician and take between three to five days to complete," the university's dean of science, Prof. Tony Webber, said.

"The new geneco technology can take about 20 tests per day with one technician operating," Prof. Webber said.

"But our next stage of development is to go fully automated, which could potentially process up to 1,000 tests per day," Prof. Webber said.

Genetic diseases, sometimes called hereditary dis-

eases, are caused by an irregularity of the genetic structure of the chromosomes, he said.

"Now the geneco technology can accurately diagnose the potential of parents to pass on genetic diseases to their children," he said.

Australia's most common life-threatening genetic disease is cystic fibrosis (CF) which primarily affects the lungs and digestive system.

About one person in 2,000 will have cystic fibrosis passed on to them, Prof. Webber said.

Until recently it was a disease for which there was little treatment and its victims rarely lived to adulthood, he said. With developments in modern medicine, the life expectancy of victims had been extended considerably.

"But the geneco technology offers a very real hope that future generations can be spared the tragedy of watching their children suffer with CF," Prof. Webber said.

## Migraine sufferers have twice the risk of stroke

By Paul Raeburn  
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California — Men who get migraines are twice as likely as others to have a stroke, providing possible clues to the causes of the disorders, doctors said Monday.

"We're not implying that migraines themselves are causing stroke, but rather that migraines may be a marker for increased risk of stroke," said Dr. Joann E. Manson, one of the authors of the study.

She emphasised that this was a preliminary finding that points to a need for further research. She also said the findings would apply to women as well as men.

Dr. Seymour Diamond of the Diamond Headache Clinic in Chicago, the nation's oldest and largest private headache clinic, said the finding was "very significant and very important."

"It shows that people with migraines have more unstable or fragile blood vessels," he said.

The study suggests that using Aspirin or other drugs to

prevent migraines might help prevent strokes, Dr. Diamond said.

"If I was a migraine sufferer, I would talk to my physician," he said.

The study, directed by Julie E. Buring of the Harvard Medical School in Boston, was presented recently at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association. It found a statistical association between migraine headaches and strokes. It did not directly address the questions of what might be causing the disorders.

But Manson said the study suggests that the blood vessels of the people at risk may contract and expand more than the blood vessels of others.

Such changes in blood vessel size are linked to migraines and can cause strokes if the blood vessels constrict too much, she said.

Another possibility is that the high-risk individuals are prone to more clumping of blood cells called platelets, which help to form clots. The most common form of stroke, called ischemic strokes, occurs when clots impede

blood flow in one of the arteries nourishing the brain.

In the Harvard study, men with migraines were found to have 2½ times the risk of ischemic stroke. They had lower risks of other forms of stroke, so their total risk of strokes was slightly lower, about double that of others.

The study was based on analysis of the health history of 22,000 U.S. male doctors, who were between ages 40 to 84 when the study began in 1982.

Dr. Manson, who is not a headache specialist, said she did not believe that prevention of migraines would help prevent the risk of stroke.

Dr. Diamond disagreed.

"If we can cut down the number of attacks, there's going to be less damage" to the blood vessels, he said.

He said he has chronic changes in blood vessels in the brains of people who suffer from migraines. "It shows that people with migraines have more unstable or fragile blood vessels," he said. It is consistent with the new findings.

Migraine sufferers are more common in women than men, and it will be important to confirm these

results in women, Dr. Manson said. She said, however, that there is no reason to believe the findings will differ in women.

Interestingly, the migraine sufferers in the study did not show an increased risk of heart disease, meaning that the abnormality may occur only in the brain's blood vessels, not in those that nourish the heart, "Dr. Manson said.

## Short people may have increased risk of heart attacks\*

By Daniel Q. Haney  
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California — Add one more injustice to life's unfairness: Short people are more likely to suffer heart attacks.

"The taller you are, the less is your risk of heart attack," said Dr. Patricia Hebert, who presented a study on the subject Monday.

The study was released at the annual scientific meeting of the American Heart Association.

For every extra inch of height, she found, people's heart attack risk goes down 3 per cent. This means that someone 5-foot-10 is 9 per cent less likely than someone 5-foot-7 to suffer a heart attack.

"I wish I was taller," quipped 5-foot-9 Dr. Michael R. Rosen of Columbia University.

Just why this is so is unclear. However, he and others

suggested that shorter folks pay more attention to reducing their risk by concentrating on factors under their control, such as cholesterol and blood pressure.

Hopefully, short people will exercise more and eat better to get around it that way," said Dr. Rosen.

The study was based on a survey, begun in 1982, of the health of 22,071 male doctors from across the United States. The primary goal was to check the effects of taking Aspirin, which turned out to reduce the risk of a heart attack by 44 per cent.

In the study, men under 5-foot-7 had about 70 per cent more heart attacks than those over 6-foot-1.

However, the researchers used the huge amount of data collected to review other links with heart disease.

Several factors increase the risk of heart attacks. The

principal ones are smoking, high cholesterol, diabetes and high blood pressure.

The researchers cautioned that just being tall is no guarantee of escaping heart trouble. Loftier folks should still watch their diets and blood pressures, among other things.

The study was based on a survey, begun in 1982, of the health of 22,071 male doctors from across the United States. The primary goal was to check the effects of taking Aspirin, which turned out to reduce the risk of a heart attack by 44 per cent.

In the study, men under 5-foot-7 had about 70 per cent more heart attacks than those over 6-foot-1.

However, the researchers used the huge amount of data collected to review other links with heart disease.

These findings appear to be generalisable to women as well as men," said Dr. Hebert.

## New procedure zaps children's hearts to stop dangerous irregular beats

By Daniel Q. Haney  
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California — Doctors are zapping children's hearts with bursts of radio-wave energy to cure potentially lethal irregular heartbeats that afflict about 3 per cent of the population.

Several studies presented this week at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association show that this procedure is quickly spreading to major hospitals as an alternative to surgery or life-long medical treatment.

"This has emerged as a new therapy to provide definitive treatment," Dr. MacDonald Dick II of the University of Michigan said.

The treatment, catheter ablation, uses high bursts of energy to correct a variety of inborn abnormalities that cause disabling and sometimes life-threatening heart

palpitations.

The most common of these ailments, called Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome, afflicts about 1 per cent of the population. Similar conditions affect an additional 2 per cent of the population.

These people have extra electrical circuits in their hearts' pumping chambers that cause unnecessary heartbeats. Symptoms can include dizziness and fainting.

During the mid-1980s, doctors learned that they could thread a skinny tube called a catheter into the heart and obliterate the circuits with a burst of electricity. While the technique initially seemed to cure the ailment, doctors later learned that the procedure destroyed too much tissue, causing a variety of complications, including cardiac arrest.

The technique fell from favour. But last year, resear-

chers began experimenting with radio-wave energy. This approach, which burns the unwanted tissue, requires much less energy, can be done while the patient is awake and appears so far to be safe.

"It's the treatment of choice for Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome," said Dr. Barbara J. Deal of Childrens Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

However, some experts are still sceptical and say more follow-up is needed before doctors can be sure it works as well as it seems.

"It's still in its infancy," said Dr. Jeffrey P. Moak of Texas Childrens Hospital in Houston. "We don't know the long-term implications. It has a lot of potential, but we have to be careful."

Dr. Moak said the new approach has been tried in

about 4,500 people, including 175 children.

Until the advent of catheter ablation, surgery was the primary way of controlling the heartbeat irregularities when medicines are ineffective.

The radio-wave approach is also used for neurosurgery but has not been specifically approved by the Food and Drug Administration for treating hearts.

Dr. Robert Lemery of the Montreal Heart Institute said that using the radio-wave catheters is difficult. While many doctors can treat 60 per cent of cases effectively, reaching a 90 per cent success rate requires a high level of skill and experience.

"Positioning the catheter is extremely critical," he said. "The heat that is transferred is very localised. It's very, very sensitive."

## Heart drug linked to sudden death

ANAHEIM, California (AP) — One of the oldest and most widely used heart drugs significantly increased the risk of extremely sudden death in people who had survived a heart attack, a study shows.

Researchers also found that a surprisingly high number of heart attack survivors — about one in three — later died of extremely sudden

heart rhythm disorders within 60 seconds.

"One million Americans survive heart attacks each year, and about 25 per cent of them are treated with the drug Digitalis," said Dr. Arthur Moss of the University of Rochester Medical Centre.

His study found that Digitalis increased the risk of the

sudden heart rhythm disorders.

"It was a very significant risk," Dr. Moss said at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association.

Dr. Moss did not say that patients who use digitalis should now be taken off the drug. He said further study is needed to identify which patients faced the risk of sudden

death from the drug.

"Sudden cardiac death" is usually used to describe severe heart rhythm disorders that lead to death in less than an hour. They are most often a consequence of damage to the heart from heart attacks.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, killing about 500,000 people a year.

July 11, 1991

## Pluralism strengthens Palestinians'

(Continued from page 1)

From the Liberation of Palestine comes a podium with members of the Palestinian delegation to Madrid at more than 30 public meetings that took place in the occupied territories.

During public "hearings," and debates on the pros and cons of the negotiations process were held, said Dr. Erekat who participated in 11 of the 30 meetings. While most parties opposed to the talks participated in these "hearings," Hamas, the main Islamic opposition party, also raised questions to the delegates.

Asked where he thought the negotiations would realistically lead the Palestinians, Dr. Erekat, the most outspoken of the Palestinians at the Madrid conference, said the talks would lead to a transfer of authority, which will be a path to sovereignty from a Palestinian point of view. "I think what the Israelis are talking about is a transfer of authority to individuals. What we want is sovereignty and there is nothing in between."

Dr. Erekat said he did not expect that there would be a drastic change in Israeli attitude. "Israel has been rejecting the new shape of the world. They have a mental rejection as far as the changing role of Israel as a strategic ally of the West in the region. It will take them time but they will realize at the end that they have to live side by side to a Palestinian state." Dr. Erekat said.

Dr. Erekat said the Israeli society is "still a society which has a mechanism of integration of fear. In the end they will in all likelihood follow the leader" and revert to the herd theory when it comes to national decisions pertaining to peace."

## Syria

(Continued from page 1)

responsibly punished."

Before the alleged Libyan connection surfaced, Western investigators had named the Syria-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) its prime suspect. That group denied responsibility.

U.S. and British authorities have not made clear whether they plan to issue more indictments in the bombing.

Algeria has also called for caution and restraint over the Western accusations against Libya.

A foreign ministry statement said while Algeria remained horrified at the Pan Am blast and the explosion aboard the UTA airliner in 1989, it noted "with satisfaction" the Libyan decision to set up an inquiry after "preliminary conclusions had put the responsibility for these attacks on Libyan citizens."

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and French President Francois Mitterrand Tuesday discussed the charges against Libya. French government sources said.

But the sources said Mr. Mubarak was not acting as an intermediary between France and Libya during the talks at the presidential palace.

Turkey said Wednesday that the U.S. had given it documents to back its charges against two Libyans.

But the Turkish Foreign Ministry said an independent court had to investigate and establish the role of the two men in the disaster.

The United States has given us documents and information that has led them believe two Libyan citizens are responsible for the crash," spokeswoman Milt Dincmen said.

Dr. Erekat said he did not yet see a movement that counters the "revisionist Zionism" that is the basis of Israeli politics vis-a-vis the Arabs and Palestinians. "It is probably easier for the Israelis to react to war than to peace. It is a spartan society. I don't see any genuine movement in that society in terms of telling Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, wake up."

But Israel, as all other peoples in the world, must accept the "real politik" which is defining the new world order, Dr. Erekat said. "Our definitions and positions cannot be defined by what we want and what we don't want," he said.

The symbolic offering by Palestinian youths in the occupied territories of olive branches to Israeli occupation soldiers "caught the Israelis off balance. They did not know how to react."

"At the end they started shooting people with olive branches. And now there is an order to burn olive branches," Dr. Erekat said.

The recent debate within the opposition Labour Party in Israel to push to revoke the Israeli law which bans anyone living under Israeli authority from talking to members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was not seen by Dr. Erekat as very significant.

"You have to keep in mind that the law is stupid, and there are some circles in the Labour Party who are admitting that it is stupid and wrong," he said.

Although the move may have partly been influenced by internal Israeli affairs, Dr. Erekat said, most of the changes taking place within the Israeli political circles had more to do with internal calculations than external ones.

As Israeli elections approach

## Israel

(Continued from page 1)

... not only (with) generous gifts of the Jewish community around the world but a liberal investment of capital by entrepreneurs from all over the world."

In a speech defending Israel's immigration policies at a Jewish fund-raising meeting, Mr. Shamir also indirectly criticised Italy, Britain and France for their recent handling of refugees from Albania, Vietnam and Africa.

"When you see how some countries treat immigrants and refugees — whether it be Italy or Britain or France — we can all be proud as Jews of what we are doing for brethren," he said.

The head of Israel's opposition Labour Party called on the government Tuesday to freeze settlements and accept territorial compromise to achieve real peace. Shimon Peres, leader of the Labour Party, criticised Mr. Shamir for his repeated refusal to freeze Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Let's see what Mr. Shamir proposes," Mr. Peres told a Labour convention. "Autonomy. How do we achieve it? With settlements. Peace. How do we achieve it? By annexation."

"Labour must say with a clear voice ... to reach autonomy we need to freeze the settlements. And to reach peace we need to compromise on territories," Mr. Peres added.

"I say territorial compromise, not withdrawal as the Arabs demand," he told the gathering.

Israel has offered Palestinians in the occupied territories autonomy for a transitional period during which a permanent settlement would be discussed.

## Palestinians

(Continued from page 1)

in 1992 the government is still using settlements and Soviet Jewish immigration to make a fait accompli to create facts on the ground, he said.

The Heikdlih accords speak of the right of people to move and give people the right to choose. The Soviet Jews have been denied the right to choose. Between 1980 and 1989, over 92 per cent of the Soviet Jews who wanted to leave the Soviet Union chose not to come to Israel," Dr. Erekat said.

But the international community has actually come to Mr. Shamir's aid to help realise his dream of creating his "greater Israel" by closing its door to Soviet Jewry. "Why did the U.S., Canada, the Europeans decided to close their doors and thus the Soviet Jews were forced to go to Israel," Dr. Erekat asked.

The Soviet-Jewish issue is being used by Mr. Shamir to blackmail countries for more money on humanitarian grounds and to strengthen settlement policy, he said. At the end "there will be settlements and immigration and if they do not have money there will be neither," Dr. Erekat argued.

Those who argue that a solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict must be based on land for peace and at the same time give Shamir money and people I think they are contradicting their own basis, they are destroying their own arguments," he concluded.

The recent debate within the opposition Labour Party in Israel to push to revoke the Israeli law which bans anyone living under Israeli authority from talking to members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was not seen by Dr. Erekat as very significant.

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As Israeli elections approach

## Shevardnadze has won world respect by playing it straight

By Alan Cooperman  
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Through all the zigzags and zags of Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms, Eduard Shevardnadze has walked a straight line toward peace and human rights, never letting ideology block the way.

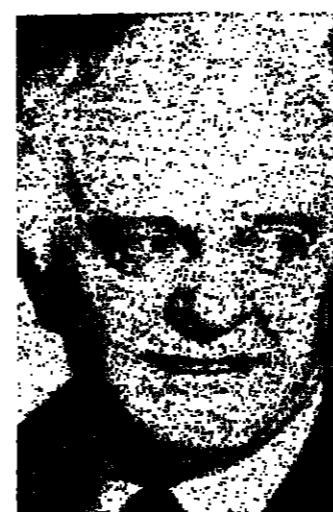
A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegation is also due to head for Moscow on Friday for talks with Mr. Shevardnadze.

Nabil Shaath, a senior advisor to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, said one of the key Palestinian objectives was to ensure that Moscow makes Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel contingent on an Israeli assurance that none of the emigres would be settled in the occupied Arab territories.

A halt to Israel's continued settlement activity in the occupied territories is one of the key demands of the Palestinians ahead of the next round of talks with the Jewish state.

Mr. Shaath also said the Palestinians felt more comfortable dealing with Mr. Shevardnadze than Mr. Pankin, who was relatively new to the issues of the Middle East while his successor has had previous experience in tackling the complexities of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The courtly 63-year-old Shevardnadze is known in the West as a pragmatic, flexible diplomat.



Eduard Shevardnadze

But he has spoken often of the importance of principle in foreign affairs.

"One of the principles of new thinking accepted the world over is freedom of choice. We recognise this right, and it led to the formation of a new Eastern Europe," he said in the TV interview, his last public comments before Tuesday's announcement.

"If we had not recognised it, if we had not assisted in the formation of new states in Eastern Europe, we would now be on the verge of a third world war."

When Mr. Gorbachev shrank from free market economic reforms and clamped down on repressive republics one year ago, Mr. Shevardnadze resigned rather than be associated with those policies.

After the abortive Aug. 18-21 hardline coup, the Soviet president said he wished he had paid more attention to Mr. Shevardnadze's dramatic warning that a dictatorship threatened.

Mr. Shevardnadze had been one of Mr. Gorbachev's closest advisers from the dawn of perestroika in 1985, but he quickly distanced himself from the Soviet leader after resigning last Dec. 20.

He founded a reformist think-tank, wrote a book and helped create a democratic reform movement, a coalition that was preparing to challenge the Communist Party for power before the coup.

After the putsch, the party collapsed and the democratic reform movement faded, overrun by events.

Mr. Shevardnadze told the Associated Press yesterday that his "dear friend" Mr. Gorbachev had paid too much attention to short-range tactics of political survival and too little to long-term reform strategies.

During Mr. Gorbachev's six years in power, he "was constantly manoeuvring. And along the way he allowed himself to get dragged too far to one side or another," Mr. Shevardnadze said. "He enjoyed manoeuvring too much. This is the root of his constant fluctuations and indecisions."

Despite such outspoken criticism, Mr. Shevardnadze has gradually moved back into Mr. Gorbachev's inner circle since the coup, joining the president's new political advisory council and helping to negotiate the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the newly independent Baltics.

"The threat from the right is still there and it could intensify," he said in the interview. "In view of the aggravation of the social and economic situation in the country, the worsening of material conditions... right-wingers can gain a certain degree of popular support."



### Vacancy available at The Jordan Centre for Family Medicine

A group Family Practice is in need of a part-time Computer Data Base Programmer.

Applicants should have reasonable experience in relational data base programming, preferably who is acquainted with medical records.

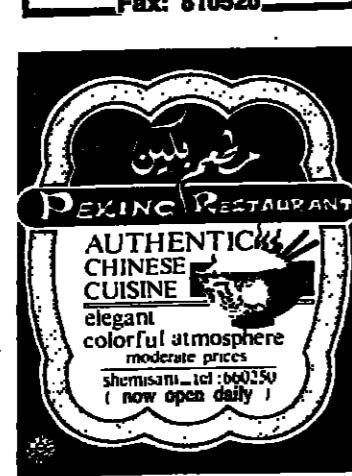
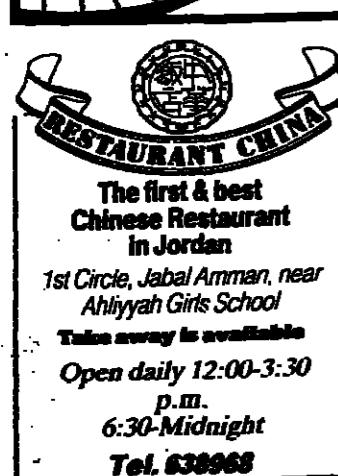
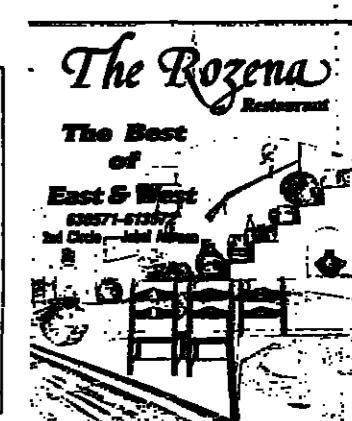
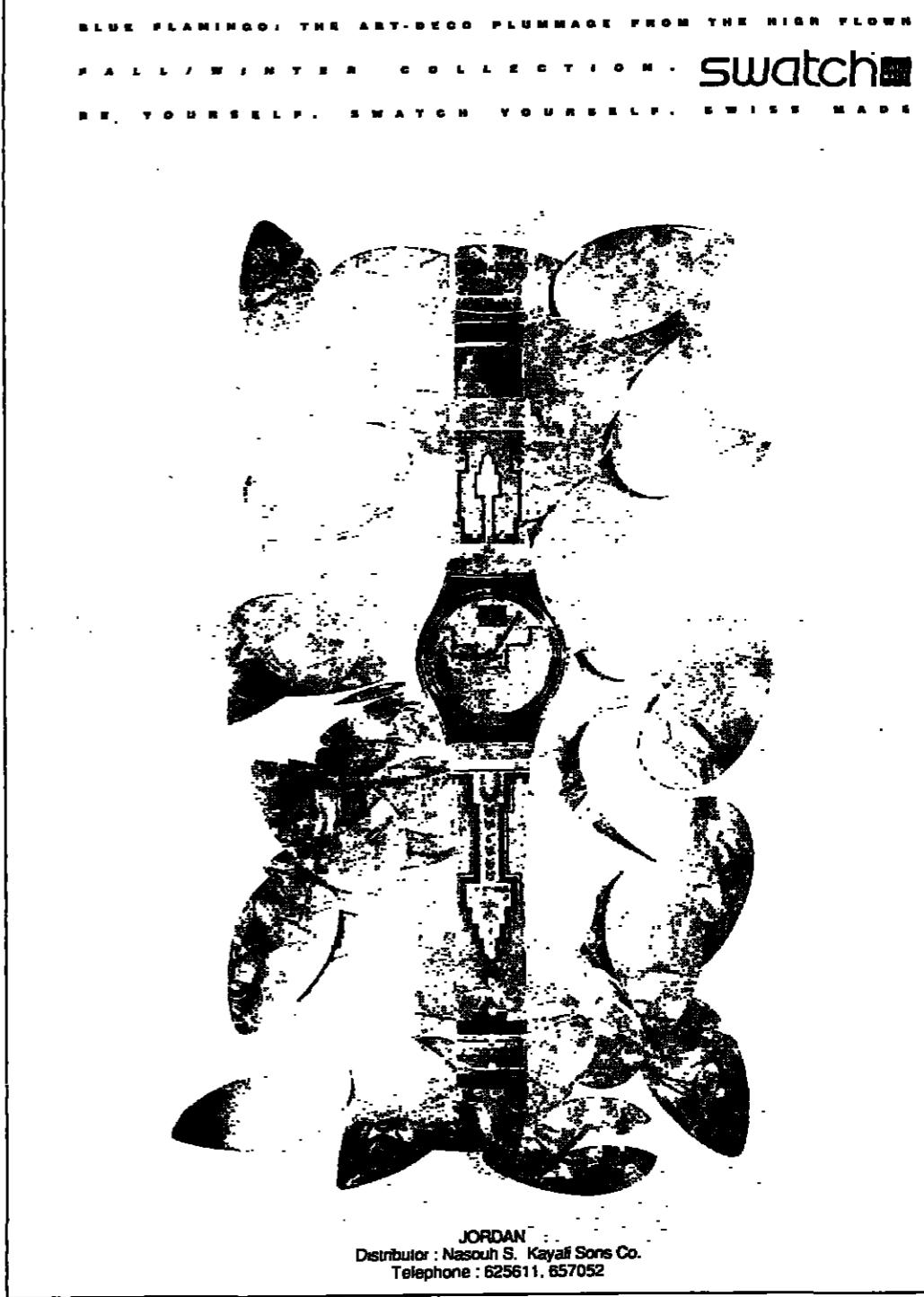
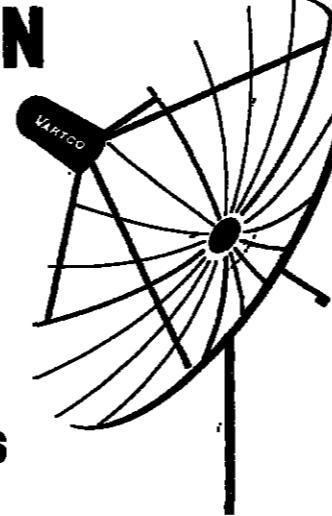
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## Sabatini downs Maleeva, advances to Slims quarters

NEW YORK (AP) — Gabriela Sabatini, hardly the favorite to win her second Virginia Slims Championships title in four years, beat Katerina Maleeva 6-2, 7-6 (7-4) to move into the quarterfinals at Madison Square Garden.

Earlier Tuesday, fifth-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario overpowered Zina Garrison 4-6, 6-1, 6-0 and No. 7 Mary Joe Fernandez advanced when Helena Sukova retired with a strained hamstring with the match tied 2-6, 7-6 (7-5), 2-2.

Neither Katerina Maleeva nor her sister, Manuela Maleeva-Fagniere, who lost to Martina Navratilova Monday night, made it out of the first round.

Sabatini, mixing power with grace and big groundstrokes with delicate drop shots, unraveled Katerina Maleeva's steady ground game. She moved her from side to side, continually forced her to the net and then back to the baseline. Maleeva refused to fold, but Sabatini worked the ball around until she found an unreturnable angle.

Sabatini won the first games of the match, dropped the next two, then ripped through the next four games and appeared on the way to an easy victory.

It wasn't to be.

Again, she won the first two games of the second and dropped the next two. The two traded service breaks in the ninth through 12th games to send the set to a tiebreaker.

"I got a little tired in the second set," Sabatini said. "I was playing defensively and she had me on the run."

Maleeva jumped to a 4-1 lead, but Sabatini found the range once again and ripped off six consecutive points.

Both Sanchez Vicario and Garrison are known for speed. On this night, they added power to their games.

Through the first set, this was a slugfest, two long-range bombs racing across the baseline, hitting everything as hard as they could. Nothing fancy, except for a few drop shots.

They each held serve easily — until the eighth game. Then, it was a complete reversal.

Garrison broke her Spanish opponent at 30 to take a 5-3 lead. But, when she served for the opening set, Garrison began a string of unforced errors that would finally dash her hopes for a chance at winning this \$3 million tournament.

She dropped her serve at 30, double-faulting on game point,

but still captured the set when, down 15-40, she won four consecutive points to break Sanchez Vicario.

The string of service breaks wasn't over, Sanchez Vicario broke Garrison at love to begin the second set. And when Garrison held from the second deuce in the third game, it was the last game she would win in 1991.

After that, Sanchez Vicario had it easy, helped by Garrison's unforced errors.

On one point in the second game of the third set, Sanchez Vicario, racing from sideline to sideline, ran down two shots that looked like Garrison winners. The 19-year-old Spaniard kept the ball in play until Garrison netted a backhand volley. Garrison, usually composed and reserved on the court, threw her racket to the ground in disgust.

In the night's first match, Sukova pulled a muscle in her left thigh on the first point of final game. Following the next point, Women's Tennis Association trainer Kathleen Stroia came onto the court and wrapped the Czechoslovak's thigh.

Sukova returned to the court and played three more points before retiring in pain. "It's a shame it had to end that

way," Fernandez said. "Injuries are bound to happen. It's a long year and it takes its toll on the body."

Sukova actually was two points from winning the match in straight sets before Fernandez broke back.

"I was 6-5, 30-love in the second set," Sukova said. "It is very disappointing."

Fernandez broke her opponent, then won the tiebreaker 7-5, forcing the match into the third set.

It was the seventh time the two have met, and the third victory for the right-hander from Miami.

Controversy or no, Cuba continued to be the most impressive team at the championships.

Super-heavyweight Roberto

Balado, world champion in 1989, and light-middleweight Juan

Lemus both won their semifinals Wednesday night to give Cuba six

finalists in the championship. Five Soviet boxers have qualified.

Istvan Kovacs, meanwhile, kept on target to win Hungary's first-ever gold medal with an impressive semifinal victory.

The loss of penalty made the difference in Messi's leaving the ring. He was held back by his corner men.

Forrest will fight European champion Konstantin Tsyu of the Soviet Union in Saturday's final after Tsyu scored a 25-4 win over Moses James of Nigeria.

Andrej Kurniyavka became the fifth Soviet fighter to qualify for a final when he scored a 24-12 win over Robert Dale Brown of Canada in the light-heavyweight class.

He will fight German Torsten May, a 31-7 winner over Mehmet Gurgen of Turkey.

Kovacs, a 21-year-old mechanic from Budapest beaten only 10 times in 139 amateur bouts, gave a textbook display of clever boxing to beat Hassan Moustafa of Egypt and earn a place in Saturday's final of the flyweight division.

Park will face Kirkov Kirkorov

### SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Lineker confirms Japanese move

LONDON (R) — England soccer captain Gary Lineker confirmed Wednesday he will be leaving Tottenham Hotspur at the end of the season to join Japanese club Grampus Eight. The fee for the 31-year-old striker was said by Spur's chief executive Terry Venables to be "just short of one million pounds" (\$1.8 million) but the player refused to confirm he would personally receive over two million pounds (\$3.5 million) from the deal. "My original plan was to finish my contract with Tottenham, which runs for the rest of this season and the one after, before retiring," Lineker said. "But the Japanese interest came up and it gave me an interesting new option." Lineker plans to bow out of international soccer after the 1992 European Championship finals in Sweden but will not link up with his new club, based in Nagoya, until February 1993. He needs only three more goals to equal Bobby Charlton's England record of 49 international goals but has virtually ruled out representing England beyond next June. "You never know and if England are doing badly, I might just get a call but it is not something I am considering as a serious possibility at the moment," he said.

Twice in the last two minutes of the first half he and Darko Pancev combined to stretch United's defense almost beyond its fragile limits, with Savicevic sending the ball through defenders' legs.

But on both occasions, Pancev, the European Golden Boot winner last season as most prolific marksman, was denied a second minute penalty.

Clayton Blackmore scrambled the ball off the line and then Danish international keeper Peter Schmeichel saved with his feet. Pancev had another opportunity in the closing seconds but headed wide.

Savicevic himself almost put Red Star ahead in the 55th minute when he latched on to a poor pass from Dennis Irwin, but succeeded only in firing the ball into the crowd — United's lowest of the season at 22,110.

But with Savicevic constantly deceiving the United defenses with his artistry and speed, it only looked a matter of time before Red Star did score.

McClair's goal, however, was enough for manager Alex Ferguson to claim the super cup for the second time, after winning it with Scottish side Aberdeen in 1983.

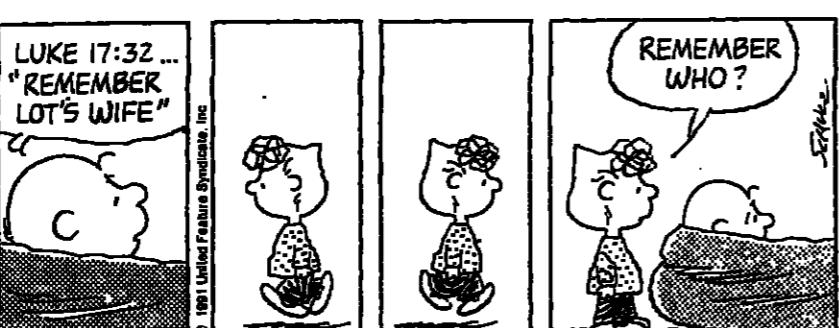
#### Frankfurt to host Fed Cup for 2 years

LONDON (AP) — The Federation Cup will be staged in Frankfurt, Germany, for the next two years, the International Tennis Federation said. Frankfurt had been chosen months ago to host the 1991 edition of the women's team event. Traditionally, the Federation Cup has been played in a different country each year, but the ITF said it decided to keep the event in Frankfurt in 1993.

#### U.S. women's soccer team beats Brazil

CANTON, China (AP) — April Heinrichs of the United States scored two goals to lead her team to a 5-0 win over Brazil and a quarterfinal berth in the Women's World Championships. Also, host China tied Denmark 2-2 and Norway beat New Zealand 4-0 in Group A play; Sweden demolished Japan 8-0 in Group B; and, in Group C, Germany beat Taiwan 3-0 and Italy edged Nigeria 1-0. The goals by Heinrichs, the United States team captain, and single scores by Carin Jennings, Michelle Akers-Stahl and Mia Hamm improved the U.S. record in Group B to 2-0, assuring the team a place in Sunday's quarterfinals. Germany, China and Italy have also clinched in the quarterfinals.

#### WE HAVE TO MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL...DO YOU KNOW ANY SHORT ONES?



#### Peanuts



#### Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Cubans continue to impress despite controversial loss

SYDNEY (AP) — Featherweight Arnaldo Mesa had to be restrained by his corner men after losing a controversial decision Wednesday night at the World Amateur Boxing Championships.

No one, however, could keep two of his Cuban teammates from powering into the finals.

South Korean Duk Kyn advanced to the final in the featherweight division with the 16-15 decision over Mesa. Mesa, the Pan American games champion, was penalized three points by Yugoslav referee Strelin Jabucina for slapping with the inside of his glove in the final round.

Leams landed a big right on the jaw of experienced German Torsten Schmidt in the first round of their bout. The referee stopped the contest with Schmidt sprawled on the canvas.

Balado will face Bulgarian Svetlin Russinoff in Saturday's super-heavyweight final after Russinoff rallied from a slow start to score a 19-17 win over American Larry Donald.

Lemus will fight Soviet Israel Akopokhyan, who scored a 24-14 win over gusty Norwegian Ole Klemetsen.

A fourth Cuban boxer, former Pan American games gold medalist Candelario Duvergel, was disqualified for hitting American Vernon Forrest with a low blow after 54 seconds of the first round in their lightweight semifinal.

"He got every bit of me," said Forrest after recovering from the painful blow.

The same referee deducted six points from American Ivan Robinson in his loss to the same Korean in the second round.

"This cannot be," Mesa shouted as he was wrested from the arena. He had to be held down in the Cuban dressing room as he wept and writhed in anguish after the loss.

"Messi won. It was a bad decision," said Cuban head coach Alcides Sagara.

Mesa later tried to climb a partition to throw a chair at members of the U.S. team, but was restrained by an Australian official.

Park will face Kirkov Kirkorov

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Sufficient energy is being generated today as the Sun enters Sagittarius for you to accomplish a great deal even though the Moon Square Jupiter will take your focus from your overall objective.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) There are many obligations to be attended by you now that have to do with taxes, insurance, investments, dividends and partnership matters.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You have every sort of need to find out just where you do stand with your associates so listen closely to any comments they have to make.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You have plenty of things to do and you now can have the determination and the steadfastness to carry through with such plans in a satisfactory manner.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) You now have a chance to have one of your happiest of days but its up to you to get out of that lethargy and make arrangements for recreations.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Look around your home and see what need tuning up and what you can do to make everything more spick and span and in good operating condition.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) This is that moment for you to

look to your regular daily life and see what you can do to make it more pleasant, comfortable and efficient.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Now you find that you are able to see how to make more money or to lay off expenses and to have that prosperous feeling that make everything easier.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) This is your day to get off that comfortable couch or seat and to go after what you want in a vital, dynamic and well rounded manner.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Quietly make some fixed plans and arrangements to have your cherished longings a part of your life and don't talk so much about what plan to do.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Think over what friends and acquaintances you most prefer being with and arrange or go to some party or gathering where they will be.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Look to your credit and career now and think out what you can do to make those who have any control over your affairs see you in the finest light.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Whatever you have in mind that does require a fresh new approach is excellent now and look into all types of accurate information for the data you need.

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** The Full Moon today in Taurus arrives with three Moon oppositions to Pluto, Mars and the Sun creating some confusing and perplexing aspects that will require a lot of tact and diplomacy to wealth.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) You get a whole fresh new view of what you want and how you can get it early but later an associate is apt to do something that could lead to a separation.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You now find that whatever you want to do to make your dreams come true requires that you get the approval of an experienced confidante.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Think over how to please a friend who has been close to you in the morning which you find that there exists a problem between your mate and a friend.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Look for the silver lining to your relationships at home and be sure that you concentrate on the good points of those close to you instead of their faults.

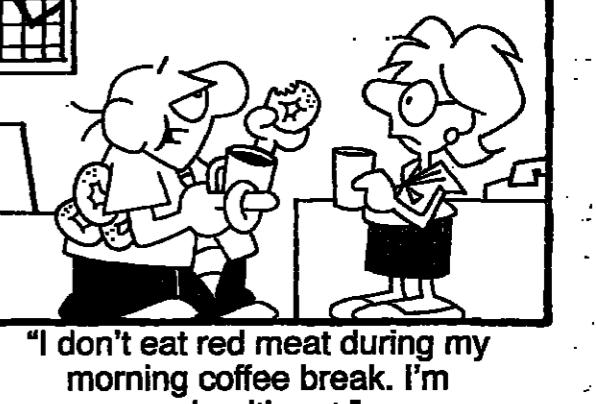
**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Very early your mind is working overtime on good ideas so listen to them and do something about them while later get out and do some errands.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You have a brilliant idea how you can make more money and increase your assets and hold to your ideas when others try to discourage you later in the day.

### THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

HARRIS



### JUMBLE

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**ONSOW**

**KIHCC**

**FUPULC**

**CASSEC**

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.



## Yugoslav army evacuates Vukovar hospital as fighting intensifies

BELGRADE (R) — The Yugoslav army evacuated 400 hospital patients from the fallen Croatian town of Vukovar Wednesday but turned its guns on strategic targets across the rebel republic with intensified ferocity.

The towns of Osijek and Zadar and villages around Nova Gradisca stuck with artillery barrages as the 13th ceasefire of the Yugoslav conflict crumbled after only four days.

Yugoslav President Alija Izetbegovic, who fears his republic will be drawn into the war, said he would ask for U.N. peacekeeping forces to be deployed along its borders with Serbia.

Tasjus News Agency said European Community (EC) monitors and the international Red Cross (ICRC) supervised the evacuation of the hospital in Vukovar which Croatia surrendered to the Serbian-led army Monday after a three-month siege.

But in Zagreb, the head of the ICRC mission, Marco Alther, denied his teams were supervising the evacuation.

"That makes me laugh. I deny

it," he said, adding that the army was taking the wounded away on its own.

Soldiers said Croatian National Guards in the village, used to supply the fighters in Vukovar with food and ammunition, cut the throats of the children aged between five and seven and also adult Serbs to death.

The federal army claims that Croatian forces attacked Serbian civilians during more than four months of fighting since Croatia declared its independence from Yugoslavia.

Croatian radio said federal artillery pounded the Adriatic port of Zadar and nearby villages throughout the night.

Shelling of Osijek, the chief town of eastern Croatia 30 kilometres north of Vukovar, began at 5 a.m. (0400 GMT) and continued to clash with the army.

The army controlled access to the town which was still littered with the bodies of dead soldiers and civilians.

It also cordoned off the neighbouring village of Borovo Naselje where a photographer saw the bodies of 41 Serbian children who army sources said were killed in

an infant school by fleeing Croatian soldiers.

Soldiers said Croatian National Guards in the village, used to supply the fighters in Vukovar with food and ammunition, cut the throats of the children aged between five and seven and also adult Serbs to death.

Croatia's ability to defend itself against the more numerous army's air and fire power is diminishing daily, however, and its military morale has been dealt a severe blow by the defeat in Vukovar.

The Croatian High Command accused the army of beginning a final offensive to capture more Croatian territory for Serbia. It already controls a third of the rebel republic.

"The final army offensive began on Nov. 16 during the ceasefire," a statement said. "It started with the fierce attack on Vukovar and is continuing on all fronts so that the borders of a mini-Yugoslavia can be drawn."

U.N. emissary Cyrus Vance continued talks with Croatian leaders about the deployment of U.N. peacekeeping forces in the war zones despite the heavy fighting. The U.N. has stressed that it will send troops only if there is a permanent ceasefire.

Japan

to approve  
peace  
force, but  
not for  
Cambodia

TOKYO (R) — Japan is on the verge of approving plans to send peacekeeping troops overseas for the first time, but the likelihood that any will reach Cambodia in the near future is fading rapidly.

Japan has said repeatedly it hoped to play a prominent role in helping the United Nations restore peace to Cambodia, one of the South East Asian countries it occupied during the last war.

Yet over the past few days Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has unveiled a string of conditions that appear likely to hinder Japan from sending a contingent of troops to help U.N. forces in Cambodia or elsewhere anytime soon.

On Monday, when a special lower house committee opened debate on the government's Peacekeeping Council (PKO), Mr. Miyazawa said he would not send troops to Cambodia as long as there was a danger of a truce violation.

"Japan's decision to send troops to join the U.N. peacekeeping forces in Cambodia will depend on whether the four Cambodian rival factions abide by the truce accord," Mr. Miyazawa told the committee.

The first U.N. troops arrived in post-civil war Cambodia earlier in November. They are to form the U.N. Transitional Authority of Cambodia (UNTAC) that is expected to disarm combatants, ensure a ceasefire and help organise elections expected to be held in 1993.

On Tuesday, the prime minister said that the United Nations would not have the right of command over any Japanese contingent joining U.N. peacekeeping activities.

Moreover, the decision to fire in self-defence would be left up to each Japanese peacekeeping soldier, regardless of the orders of the U.N.-appointed commander, he told the PKO panel.

"The U.N. secretary-general will not have the right to order Japanese peacekeeping forces (to fire), nor will he be in a position to command them," Mr. Miyazawa said in reply to a question.

By Wednesday, he had promised to heed public opinion before sending troops abroad.

"Japan should not send troops overseas if there is opposition (by the public), regardless of whether we have been asked for PKO assistance on humanitarian grounds in the form of U.N. resolutions," he said.

Minoru Tanba, head of the Foreign ministry's Bureau, disagreed. He told parliament this week that Japan has already obtained the "understanding" of the United Nations regarding limitations it would have to place on its peacekeeping troops.

Mr. Miyazawa should win approval of the PKO bill next month, Foreign Ministry officials have said.

### WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

#### 36 killed in Mexican train crash

TEHUACAN, Mexico (AP) — Rescuers used shovels and cranes to search for victims Wednesday after a runaway freight train burst from the track at a busy highway intersection, crushing cars and smashing buildings in this southern town. The midnight discovery of five bodies in the debris raised the death toll in Tuesday's wreck to at least 36, making it one of the worst Mexican railroad tragedies in memory. Hospital officials said at least 41 other people were treated for injuries. Officials were investigating reports that the train's brakes failed. The crew then uncoupled some cars and leapt to safety while the rest of the train — with no one at the controls — sped to more than 50 mph (80 kph) and derailed. Soldiers and federal highway police searched for more victims through the night in this picturesque community known for its bottled mineral water by the same name.

#### Train plunges off bridge in U.S.

SHEPHERDSVILLE (AP) — A freight train derailed sent 14 cars, including one carrying explosive chemicals, plunging off a railroad bridge Tuesday, prompting the evacuation of about 1,000 people, authorities said. About half of the metal bridge spanning the salt river collapsed. The CSX train's three engines and the first 16 cars of the 89-car train already had passed over the bridge. No injuries were reported. The derailed appeared to have been caused by a garbage truck that struck part of the bridge moments before the train passed, officials said. The car with explosive chemicals was next to burning cars containing corn syrup and construction material. Firefighters stayed away because of the possibility of explosion. The car contained methylene diphenyl diisocyanate, used to make plastic, officials said.

#### Looted treasures found on Soviet base

MOSCOW (AP) — Treasures from the famed "amber room" at the Czarist palace in Russia — stolen by the Nazis at the end of World War II — have been found on a Soviet military base in eastern Germany, a newspaper disclosed. The room was one of the great masterpieces of pre-revolutionary Russian artistry, along with Faberge eggs and the czar's jewels, and consists of large wall panels and other furnishings made from the rare, honey-coloured resin. The decorations were stripped by German soldiers from the walls of a famous chamber in Catherine's Palace at Tsarskoye Selo, a village outside St. Petersburg. In its report, Rabochaya Tribuna, did not identify the military base where it said the treasures were discovered. But it said the entire cache could be worth \$150 million. Also found were several gold icon frames stolen from the Russian city of Novgorod, the newspaper reported. It said Soviet military intelligence learned of the whereabouts of the stolen artifacts months ago, but that documents disclosing the news — whether deliberately or by accident — never reached Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin.

#### Sri Lankan rebels kill 29 soldiers

COLOMBO (R) — Tamil rebels killed 29 soldiers and a civilian in two separate ambushes in Sri Lanka Wednesday, police and military sources said. They said 20 soldiers and the civilian were killed at Simhapura in eastern Sri Lanka in an attack by about 300 rebels. The soldiers were attacked while trying to clear a road of rebel mines. Military sources said nine soldiers were killed in an attack on an army unit in the village of Sangampur in the north. Several rebels were also believed to have been killed in the battle. Six soldiers were wounded and troops were trying to hunt down the attackers, the sources said.

#### Bush to visit Japan on Jan. 7

TOKYO (R) — U.S. President George Bush will make an official four-day visit to Japan from Jan. 7 after touring Australia, Singapore and South Korea, Kyodo News Service said Wednesday. Government sources were quoted as saying the decision was taken after Tokyo and Washington finalised arrangements for rescheduling a postponed visit by Mr. Bush. The U.S. president originally planned to start his four-nation Asian tour late this month, but he postponed the trip on Nov. 5 to concentrate on growing domestic political concerns. The decision took Japanese officials by surprise. Newly-elected Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa had hoped a Tokyo summit with Mr. Bush would give his new administration an early foreign policy success. Kyodo said a formal announcement on his trip would be made in Japan and the United States simultaneously Thursday.

#### Fire breaks out at New York trade centre

NEW YORK (R) — Fire broke out in one of the twin towers of the World Trade Centre — New York City's tallest building at 110 stories — at the end of Tuesday evening's rush hour. A spokesman for the city's fire department said an electrical box on the 94th floor of one World Trade Centre erupted in flames shortly before 6:30 p.m. (2330 GMT). There were no immediate reports of injuries and firefighters evacuated the 93rd, and 95th floors.

#### French communist leader hospitalised

PARIS (AP) — George Marchais, the hardline leader of France's Communist Party, was admitted to the cardiac unit of a Paris hospital for observation, according to his doctor, Mr. Marchais, 71, whose views made him an anachronism when the ruling Communist party fell in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. He suffered heart problems for more than a decade. His doctor, Robert Slama, said Mr. Marchais was admitted to Lariboisiere Hospital because he was experiencing irregular heart rhythms. He said Mr. Marchais would remain hospitalised for observation for a few days.

## Sihanouk becomes head of state again

PHNOM PENH (AP) — The Phnom Penh government Wednesday named Prince Norodom Sihanouk president of Cambodia, leaving two people in the largely ceremonial post.

The surprise move came less than a week after Prince Sihanouk returned to the Cambodian capital from 13 years in exile to head the Supreme National Council, a reconciliation body composed of the country's four ruling factions.

Heng Samrin is currently serving as president, but is reportedly ill with typhoid.

The real powers in Phnom Penh are Premier Hun Sen and Chea Sim, who heads the ruling People's Party of Cambodia.

The foreign minister told reporters that the decision was made without consulting two of the country's four factions — the Khmer Rouge, which earlier announced its electoral support for Prince Sihanouk, and the non-Communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front.

KPNLF leader Sou Sam is due to arrive in Phnom Penh Thursday.

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